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7 February 1986

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AUSTRALIA

DAILY ANALYZES SPLIT IN SOCIALIST LEFT

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 8 Jan 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Greater Influence for the Socialist Left"]

[Text]

THE contention of Mr Bill Hartley that these are dangerous times for the Victorian Socialist Left is impossible to argue. They are made dangerous not least by Mr Hartley's own activities. In a characteristically aggressive performance yesterday Mr Hartley warned the faction that events could be moving against it.

However, these may also be times when the Socialist Left increases its relevance to Australian politics. The split between the old and new guards of the Victorian Socialist Left is a split, in Mr Hartley's words, between those "standing for an accommodation of the positions of Labor governments in office that are going down an entirely conservative course", by which he means the new guard, and those, his cronies, who pursue a "militant" point of view.

Underlying these simple formulations is an important reality. The new guard is more politically sophisticated than the old guard. In terms of Australian politics the new guard is not particularly moderate. However it is not caught up in the flamboyant, at times bizarre, ideological obsessions of some of the old guard, notably support for radical Arab regimes such as Libya's Colonel Gaddafi.

The new guard Socialist Left recognises that despite the ascendancy of Hawke-style moderates in the ALP, these are still times of tremendous opportunity for the Left. The Left in Australia has immense

strength in a welter of institutions such as the universities, the trade unions, the increasingly government-subsidised peace and other activist movements, and the radicalised church-social justice bureaucracies. All the various strands of the Left tend to coalesce around anti-Americanism in foreign policy and hostility to capitalism domestically.

Having Labor governments in power in most States and federally provides both opportunities and problems for the Left. The problems arise from the ALP's increasing identification with mainstream Australia, its moderation and caution in government. The opportunities arise from the access which the ALP Left has to mainstream power.

There has been much deep thinking on the Left on how best to take advantage of these opportunities. The demise of the Communist Party and the rise of the Socialist Forum, in which new guard Socialist Left members are forming increasingly close ties to politically sophisticated former Communist Party members, who are in due course likely to find their way into the ALP, is a result of this process of reflection.

If the Left distances itself from the flamboyantly unrepresentative politics of Mr Hartley it is likely to strengthen, rather than weaken, its position, moving closer to the mainstream of Australian politics and inevitably exerting greater influence.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

SCIENCE MINISTER UNVEILS NEW ANTARCTIC BASE, PLANS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 4 Jan 86 p 1

[Text]

NZPA Hobart

Australia will establish a new summer research station in Antarctica as the first stage of an expansion of its scientific programme in support of its territorial claim on the continent.

The Science Minister, Mr Jones, yesterday announced that the research station would be established

at Bungar Hills, an ice-free area of the Antarctic on the coast of Queen Mary Land and about 2000 nautical miles south-west of Hobart.

The station will be called Edgeworth-David after the Australian geologist Sir Tannatt William Edgeworth-David, who was a member of Shackleton's expedition in 1907 and in 1908 led the first party to reach

the South Magnetic Pole.

Mr Jones said Australia had laid claim to 42 per cent of Antarctica and needed to increase its level of research to ensure the claim remained credible in the eyes of other nations.

He said the Bungar Hills project was the first major step in the expansion of Australia's Antarctic programme.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

BUSINESS, POLITICAL IMPACT OF FEDERAL-WA FERTILIZER DEAL

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Jan 86 p 7

[Article by Anthony Hoy: "Gloves Come Off in Fertiliser War"]

[Text]

THE Federal Government is shielding Australian fertiliser manufacturers from the heat of an international price war being waged by their United States counterparts against efficient new manufacturing plants in the Philippines, India, Jordan and Morocco.

The shield is in the form of an amendment made last year to Australia's Anti-Dumping Act, which made domestic manufacturing costs the main criteria for assessing the existence of dumping — in place of the old criteria of assessment based on a price differential.

The heat of battle has been exacerbated by the announcement by Western Mining Corporation's Sir Arvil Farbo of his intention to produce phosphoric acid at Western Mining's Duchess deposit, and high-analysis fertiliser in a joint venture with Mt Isa Mines using sulphuric acid made from Mt Isa smelter gas.

The gloves have come off in the large fertiliser companies which have traditionally monopolised the industry.

The first victims in the resultant all-in brawl are Australian farmers and the small number of independent fertiliser importers and distributors — the type of operator who is likely to multiply under the Duchess umbrella to challenge the monopolies.

Tuesday's decision by the Federal Government — after a

quick trip by the WA Premier, Mr Burke, to see Bob Hawke at Kirribilli House — to hand the West Australian Government an election gift exemption from the controversial new duty on some imported fertilisers has only served to fan the anger in the farm sector. (The Hawke Government will pick up the \$11 million cost which the farmers would have carried.)

While the fertiliser industry shields itself at the expense of the farmer, the farm sector is forced to sell its commodities on markets which are heavily corrupted by EEC and US subsidies.

And, apart from upsetting the traditional fertiliser freight equalisation system that has applied to all States, the WA exemption also means the WA product will inevitably find its way over the border — particularly into South Australia's vulnerable Eyre Peninsula.

Not to mention the outcry that has naturally poured from fertiliser users in other States, who must now produce their wheat and other crops for the same markets as WA commodities, but at a significant cost disadvantage.

The Government's submission to the fertiliser industry lobby means these farmers will continue to be slugged \$US40 extra per tonne for imported high-analysis fertilisers.

The catalyst for this impost is an antiquated Australian manufacturing industry in-

tent on protecting its low-analysis product from more advanced imports. (Low analysis refers to the low content of nutrient in the fertiliser).

The objective of the lobby in seeking the controversial new duty was to price modern imported fertilisers containing up to 20 per cent nutrient out of reach of the Australian farm sector, in effect forcing the local market to continue using locally produced single superphosphate containing only 8.6 per cent nutrient.

A result is likely to be to force to the wall the small number of independent fertiliser importers who have injected a new competitive factor into the Australian marketplace.

Local manufacturers have had the "normal value" of imported US high-analysis fertilisers set at \$US213.09 FOB for DAP (diammonium phosphate) fertiliser — \$US41 above the price presently being charged for the same product on US domestic markets.

Australia's largest independent fertiliser importer, Mr Evan Morgan, of Hi Fert, Adelaide, said yesterday he was amazed that the domestic fertiliser lobby had been able to lobby government to the extent that farmers were required to meet this additional cost.

"Submissions to Customs claimed that the 'normal value' should be as high as \$255," Mr Morgan said. "Why should farmers be penalised to this extent?"

"Essentially, the traditional Australian fertiliser industry has clubbed together to try to increase the price of the product it sells - whether they import or manufacture - with the thought in mind of precluding importers such as ourselves from continuing operations.

"They realise that most of the fertilisers Australia is producing are antiquated. They are not used in the rest of the world. For example, only Australia and New Zealand persist in producing single superphosphate, with only 8.6 per cent nutrient content - the remaining 91.4 per cent of the product being only a vehicle of non-nutrient. Modern fertilisers contain 20 per cent nutrient."

Mr Morgan said single superphosphate had traditionally been the only fertiliser produced in Australia. The local manufacturers had become importers of other high-analysis fertilisers such as DAP and monammonium phosphate (MAP) after uneconomic attempts at producing them in small plants.

Australian Fertilisers Ltd of NSW (AFL) is the only manufacturer still making the product from time to time at its Brisbane and Newcastle plants.

"Late last year," he said, "the fertiliser lobby went to the Government with its case for an increase in the 'normal value' of material ex-USA. This was simply a technique, at the farmers' expense, of pushing farmers into using single superphosphate, and precluding the operation of importers such as ourselves again at the farmers' expense."

ICI subsidiaries AFL and Incitec Ltd of Qld dominate the trade in the eastern States. Other operators are the Australian Phosphate Cooperative in Victoria, Adelaide and Wallaroo Fertilisers in South Australia, CSBP & Farmers in Western Australia, and Electrolytic Zinc in Tasmania.

"For years these companies have been making huge profits and paying - in the case of Adelaide and Wallaroo - dividends as high as 15 per cent to shareholders," Mr Morgan said.

"The profitability of the sector hardly lends credence to its claims of 'injury' from so-called dumped foreign products.

"By winning their anti-dumping duty, these companies - most of whom also import the high profile US products - can simply pass the cost of the duty on to the farmer. This is a ploy to force prices up, and force the farmer back to the low profile Australian product."

Mr Morgan said it had been interesting to note that farmer pressure had forced the West Australian co-operative, CSBP & Farmers, to withdraw its claim for an increase in the "normal value" of DAP.

"Overall this co-operative produces 30 per cent of Australia's fertiliser requirement," he said. "It was forced to acknowledge that if its farmer clientele was marketing agricultural commodities on world markets, it could hardly be a party to increasing that clientele's import costs."

The cost to farmers forced to revert to using the low profile single superphosphate was significant. "All his modern equipment is designed for high-analysis fertilisers. And the high-analysis products account for only 40 per cent of the volume of the low-analysis fertilisers - significantly reducing a farmer's freight component and handling problems.

"The same freight penalty applies to the entire industry. By using low-analysis products containing only 8.6 per cent nutrient, we are virtually shuffling huge quantities of useless material around the country and the world at great and unnecessary expense."

The irony of the stance of members of the fertiliser lobby who imported their product had been highlighted when Hi Fert imported 12,000 tonnes of fertiliser from the Philippines, where there is no "declared normal value", Mr Morgan said.

"The duty imposed on the US product did not apply to the Philippines. Adelaide and Wallaroo - who do not manufacture at all - alleged that the Philippine product had been dumped. They were simply trying to preclude the farmer from getting the cheapest product at our expense."

Mr Morgan, an engineer and former operations manager with Adelaide and Wallaroo for 12 years, started the Hi Fert company in 1984 to import, blend and distribute high-analysis fertilisers.

"I could see that these products were the only way to go, and I did not have the capacity to manufacture them," he said.

"The Australian fertiliser manufacturing sector had an investment in the production of low-analysis single superphosphate, and naturally it was in its interests to preserve that investment to promote the use of the low-analysis product."

Hi Fert's entry into the competitive fertiliser arena was not exactly welcomed with open arms. "But I believe that in a private enterprise economy there is room for competition, and prior to the commencement of our operation there was a fertiliser monopoly in each State."

The company introduced a new range of fertilisers. "These have been accepted well physically and agronomically. The farming fraternity, its State and national bodies welcomed us as an alternative supplier of fertiliser."

The extent of this acceptance was shown by the fact that the National Farmers Federation joined with Hi Fert to present a submission to Customs opposing the increase in "normal values" of material from the United States.

"The Government has got to follow the law of the land. We don't accept that materials should be dumped," Mr Morgan said. "But there has to be a reasonable assessment of appropriate normal value attaching to countries we import fertiliser from."

"The rules of supply and demand should control price. The farmer, after all, is at the mercy of world supply and demand with his own commodities. It is reasonable to assume that he should be exposed to similar factors for his imports."

A spokesman for ICI's fertiliser manufacturing subsidiaries, who preferred not to be quoted by name, said Australian-produced fertiliser was a strategic material for the country's agricultural sector.

"The industry is saying it cannot compete with dumping, which has come about simply because the world market's supply and demand is out of kilter," he said.

"It is in the national interest, and in the interest of industry employees and associated dependent areas such as shipping, that anti-dumping measures are taken."

The availability of cheaper imported fertilisers without duty would end Australian production, the spokesman warned.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

WHEAT GROWERS EXPECT LOSSES OVER U.S. FARM BILL

North Richmond THE LAND in English 26 Dec 85 p 11

[Article by Bruce Mills]

[Text] Returns to Australian wheat growers could drop \$12-\$25 a tonne following the passing by the US Congress of the new US Farm Bill this week.

The Bill now only needs President Reagan's signature to become law. Due to come into effect next July, the Bill holds the key to world grain prices through the official loan rate for wheat--the minimum price for US wheat sales.

How much the loan rate will drop is as yet unsure, but it is expected to fall at least nine per cent from \$US3.30 a bushel to \$US3.00 a bushel. But US President Reagan could seek a 18pc drop to \$US2.70 a bushel.

Despite this, the all-important target price--the minimum price received by US farmers--shows little sign of being cut. In the draft Bill, the target price for wheat has been frozen at \$US4.38 a bushel with similar price suggestions up until 1990.

To bring production down, the Bill proposes a minimum reduction of 17.5pc in wheat sowings next year and falls of 20-30pc over the next five years and a 12.5pc to 20pc fall in areas sown to maize through the use of the Payment in Kind of PIK program.

However, in the past while the areas sown has fallen, production has been maintained as farmers have taken less productive land out of action while boosting inputs on the remaining country.

The new Bill also virtually demands the US Government use its controversial \$2000 million Export Enhancement Program to secure markets. This program has drawn strong fire from the Australian Wheat Board and the Federal Government especially since it has been used to tempt traditional buyers of Australian wheat.

Primary Industry Minister, Mr Kerin, has regularly written to US counterpart, Mr John Block, this year requesting assurances the program would not hit Australia. While these assurances have been given, subsequent actions appear to make them less solid.

Also of importance to Australian farmers is the Farm Bill's new provisions to subsidise US dairy and beef exports, a \$US5000 million export credit guarantee program as well as an extra \$US325 million for interest subsidies on export sales.

When the Export Enhancement Program was announced earlier this year it caused considerable concern to the Australian wheat industry, but since then the US Government has outlaid only \$US60 million of the \$US2000 million budget in its bid to win back wheat sales from the EEC. The allocation for the continuation of Export Enhancement Program will be a rollover of those existing funds.

Australian Wheat Board sources said although the board was concerned about continued export incentives in the Farm Bill, growers should not panic. But other provisions of the Farm Bill could cause problems for Australia in some markets--particularly for dairy products.

The Bill calls for the virtual dumping of 150,000 tonnes of surplus dairy products onto world markets in each of the next three years. Despite this, dairy provisions of the Farm Bill include a major scheme for lowering production in the longer term.

Under a scheme known as the "Whole Herd Buyout" 800,000-900,000 of the 11 million head dairy herd will be slaughtered. The US Government will be required to buy 45,300 tonnes of "red meat" in 1986 and 1987--half for domestic relief programs and half for export.

Initially this might look bad for exports of Australian manufacturing beef, but Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation deputy managing director, Dr Bruce Staden says Australian cattlemen should not suffer unduly.

Dr Staden said most of the US cow beef would be virtually given away as food aid and was unlikely to affect any of Australia's markets.

He said the only possible effect of increased cow slaughterings would be to lower US beef import quotas. But as US imports were now at historically low levels, the Australian industry had little to worry about, he said.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

RULES BENT TO TRAIN PRC AVIATORS

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 8 Jan 86 p 6

[Text] Australia's growing involvement with Chinese aviation required safety regulations to be bent a little recently so that four Chinese MIG-15 pilots could be trained to fly Australian agricultural aircraft.

None of the Chinese pilots spoke any English and since aircraft on training flights are normally allowed to carry only instructor and student, it required the intervention of the Minister for Aviation, Mr Morris, to allow an interpreter to attend instruction flights.

Australian flying techniques appeared to surprise the Chinese who have used two pilots in large and cumbersome Soviet-designed biplanes, loaded by workers carrying bags of fertiliser up a ramp to dump in the aircraft.

With single-pilot Australian aircraft such as the Transavia Skyfarmer, mechanical loaders pour in 1000 kg in about 20 seconds.

Licensed production of the Sydney-build Skyfarmer in China has been discussed, but the Chinese have shown that they are more likely to produce their version of overseas aircraft.

After a close inspection of Australia's Nomad aircraft program, the Chinese produced various versions of the near-identical Y11T, which has been affected by more problems than the original Nomad.

The Chinese agricultural-fighter pilots recently completed their training. Another batch of Chinese pilots will arrive soon, this time to fly gliders.

The Aeronautical Sports Association of the Peoples Republic of China is sending a team of three pilots, a coach and an official to compete in the international Austraglide '86 gliding championships at Benalla, Victoria, from January 19.

Although two of the Chinese pilots are said to have more than 2000 hours of gliding experience since they began gliding in 1958, Austraglide officials claim this will be China's first entry into a significant international gliding competition.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

NUCLEAR EXPERT CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT URANIUM RESTRICTIONS

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 31 Dec 85 p 10

[Text] FEDERAL Government restrictions on the development and export of uranium deposits are locking Australia out of a growing world market, according to an expert on nuclear energy.

Dr Leslie Kemeny says that unless something is done soon, Australia may miss the uranium boat. He says international demand for uranium is accelerating, offering Australian producers enormous challenges and opportunities.

Yet, despite having the world's largest known reserves, and low-cost producers, Australia is giving away the major advantage it holds.

Dr Kemeny, a senior lecturer in nuclear engineering at the University of New South Wales, made his comments in an article published in the latest issue of the Mining Review of the Australian Mining Industry Council.

He says that at the beginning of next year, Australia stands at the cross-roads for full-scale development of its uranium mining industry.

He gives three main reasons for this increase in demand.

About 60 nuclear power stations in the United States will be completed and awaiting licensing in the next two to three years; many developed countries are increasing their nuclear generating capacities

by about 15-20 per cent a year; many Third World countries are increasing their capacities.

"No nation sitting on top of what could now prove to be 30 to 40 per cent of the world's prime fuel resources has the moral right to either withhold supply or to renege on existing contracts," Dr Kemeny says.

Australia has only two producing uranium mines: Ranger and Nabarlek in the Northern Territory, with the Roxby Downs mine having recently been given the go-ahead.

Dr Kemeny says Canada is set to increase its share of the world market from 22 per cent to 31 per cent in the next five years.

"There is no doubt that Australia could supply larger quantities to the world market if production was possible and domestic commercial policies became pragmatic."

He says Australia is transferring its "comparative advantage, as a low-cost producer with huge reserves, overseas."

"As the competing countries increase their investments in uranium mining, so they lock themselves into maintaining market share in the face of new entrants," he says.

"In simple terms, once you miss the boat the energy required to catch it becomes a disincentive to even trying."

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CSO: 5100/4304

AUSTRALIA

ANGRY FARMERS VOTE FOR DEBT MORATORIUM

North Richmond THE LAND in English 9 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by Ian McPhedran]

[Text]

RESOLUTIONS demanding a moratorium on all farm and small business debts and a refusal to pay high interest rates received unanimous support from more than 600 farmers and small businessmen at Canowindra on Tuesday night.

The Canowindra meeting, called by the Canowindra Rural Reform Committee, attracted concerned people from as far afield as Werris Creek, Coolabah, Cobar, Wagga, Condobolin and Quirindi.

It followed the dumping of a load of Canowindra wheat in front of Parliament House last week — a move which brought the problems of NSW wheat farmers into national prominence.

The meeting was momentous in that it represented the first step in the forging of an alliance between the farmer and small business sectors — both of which are bearing the brunt of government economic policies.

One of the major developments at the meeting was the endorsement of the Canowindra committee as a sub-committee of the Livestock and Grain Producers Association, giving the protest movement "official" status.

Following this endorsement, committee chairman, Mr Peter Ryan, said "unpalatable decisions" would have to be taken by farm leaders if agriculture were to recover from its present plight.

"These decisions will require strong, and maybe militant action," he said.

"If the organisations do not take up the challenge as sought by their members, then the members could opt to take unco-ordinated action," he warned.

Mr Ryan said grassroots members of farm organisations should realise that agriculture was now in its strongest ever position to negotiate a better deal.

"The economy of Australia and the ability of the Government to maintain a reasonable balance of trade is totally dependent on agricultural exports.

"If we are unsuccessful in these negotiations, then the ultimate step — if all else fails — will be for us to halt wheat exports," Mr Ryan said.

"If the Government will not compensate agriculture for propping up the dollar then we can halt exports and Australia and the dollar will go down the tube together.

"Make no mistake: Australia without agriculture is like Arabia without oil," he said.

Mr Ryan said farmers would have to take their fight to the banking sector which had become the financial backer of the Government.

"They make sure they take their share of the profits all the way through, and while Westpac's income is up two pc, farm incomes have dropped 27 pc," Mr Ryan said.

Seven resolutions were passed at the Canowindra meeting with all but two receiving unanimous support.

They are:

- that the Prime Minister be requested to hold an urgent meeting to address the problems of agriculture and small business;
- that the Federal Government be asked to place a moratorium on all debts of farmers and small businesses faced with foreclosure. The moratorium to be in place until policy is implemented to improve the terms of trade; and

that interest charges be cancelled to all threatened farmers and small businesses during the moratorium period;

- that the LGPA form a 60-day committee based on the proposal of the Canowindra Rural Reform Committee so that action cells are established within the LGPA structure throughout NSW;
- NFF and LGPA to embrace the philosophy and implement the policy of improving the terms of trade of agriculture;
- that the LGPA accept financial and legal responsibilities for the Canowindra sub-committee. If after

30 days this is not forthcoming, then we, the grass roots members agree to reconvene to call an extraordinary general meeting so a new LGPA executive can be elected;

(An amendment asking that the meeting request the LGPA to give assistance to the committee was lost)

- that the LGPA call an extraordinary meeting of the NFF when Mr McLachlan returns. This NFF meeting to call on the Government to convene a conference to restructure the terms of agriculture within 30 days. Priority be given to interest rates, commodity prices and effect of government policy on the dollar; and

that if this conference is not forthcoming then the NFF prepare to take action, such action to take the form of stopping wheat exports;

(An amendment that the last sentence be deleted and in its place the words "Canberra be blockaded stopping foodstuffs from entering" was defeated.)

- that the NFF instruct the State farmer organisations to co-ordinate a full-scale march on the banking system. This march be called "the Interest Rate Revolt". The banks be told in writing by farmers and small business that they will not pay these rates any more and that the banks pressure the government to change its policy to reduce rates to a level competitive with our trading partners. The interest rate revolt to take place the week of the Court Hearing of wheat dumper, Frank Daniel, in Canberra on February 14.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

JOURNAL ANALYZES FARMERS' REVOLT

North Richmond THE LAND in English 9 Jan 86 p 8

[Editorial: "Canowindra Shows the Way"]

[Text] The Central West farmers spearheading this latest revolt are to be commended for their part in rekindling the flame of outrage that burned so brightly at the Canberra rally last July.

At that time, the nation was put on notice that a "sleeping giant" has been awoken, and would not lie down again until the injustices long suffered in silence by the farm sector had been put to rights.

Unfortunately, farmers and their leaders did not live up to this promise, and the past six months have seen governments at both State and Federal levels launch a series of further assaults against the farm sector, showing just how little residual effect such rallies have.

Clearly, the pressure must be applied again--and not released until concessions are won, and governments can be made to recognise the folly of their present incentive-stifling economic and industrial policies.

Just how this pressure should be applied will be for farmers themselves to decide--and consensus on this will not come easily. Some farmers have already indicated that drastic--even unlawful--measures are required, while others want no part of such tactics.

"The Land" believes farmers' interests will be best served by avoiding acts of violence, and by maintaining a united voice beneath the banner of State farm bodies and the National Farmers Federation.

Resolutions passed at the Canowindra meeting this week suggest that moderation has won the day, and that the best path towards reform has been chosen. All seven resolutions are worthy of support by farmers everywhere and demand attention by governments at all levels.

The Canowindra meeting removed any doubts--if any remained--that the Canowindra protesters might have lacked statewide support. It is now up to farmers' elected leaders to seize the initiative and maintain the pressure on governments until positive results are achieved.

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

U.S. FROZEN BEEF SALE THREATENS LOCAL PRODUCERS

North Richmond THE LAND in English 2 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by Rod Metcalfe]

[Text]

THE possible sale by the United States of 90,000 tonnes of frozen beef from stocks threatens to cause disruption to the world market and hit Australian producers.

The recently passed US Farm Bill will require the US Government to buy 182,000 tonnes of beef as a trade-off for the introduction of a dairy cow slaughter program.

According to the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation, half the buy-up will be redistributed through domestic food programs but 91,000 tonnes will be available for export.

Managing director of the AMLC, Mr Peter Frawley, said it was a highly disturbing prospect that the beef could be sold on the commercial market. He described the move was a bad omen for the future.

The decision had been described as a temporary measure but "temporary measures" in the US grain and dairy industries had in the past become permanent, Mr Frawley said.

He said the corporation had begun an intensive lobbying campaign in Washington against the move and would be urging the Australian Government to bring all pressure to bear on the Reagan Administration against the sell-off.

"If the meat was to be given as food aid to third world countries we would, of course, welcome the move," Mr Frawley said.

"Sales of EC subsidised beef have already forced Australia out of most of its traditional markets and in the past the US has condemned the EC for its disruptive trading practices.

"Now it is looking to do the same thing with complete disregard for countries like Australia which do not subsidise their beef producers."

Commenting further on the new Farm Bill, Mr Frawley said lobbying by the AMLC had helped gain a concession for Australian exporters on a proposed promotion budget in the US.

"Originally the Bill had contemplated domestic levy of \$US1 a head of cattle to be collected each time the animal was sold," he said.

"A formula was to be worked out to apply to imports which would have meant Australian exporters paying about \$US3 a head based on carcass weight of exports."

Mr Frawley said the new arrangements made a \$US1/head levy the maximum payable.

"Such a levy is in the long term interests of Australian exporters and will be used to promote all beef on the US market," he said.

"The AMLC will be working with the American cattle industry and the US Government to ensure promotion covers imported beef."

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CSO: 4200/583

AUSTRALIA

FAVORABLE WEATHER BOOSTS NSW WHEAT HARVEST

North Richmond THE LAND in English 26 Dec 85 p 3

[Article by Alan Dick]

[Text]

WHEAT receivals in NSW have climbed towards four million tonnes — worth \$800 million on export markets — as fine weather allows the harvest to continue uninterrupted.

Early signs that weather damage might not be as high as feared have been confirmed as deliveries pour in.

At the start of this week, 3.7 million tonnes of wheat had been received and the four million tonne mark was expected to be reached by Christmas Day.

About 50,000 tonnes of barley and 1250 tonnes of oats have also been received.

Regional managers for the NSW Grain Handling Authority reported that 75 per cent of wheat delivered so far was making ASW or better in many parts of the Central West, while in the south about half was ASW or better.

And except in a few areas, most downgraded wheat was making General Purposes rather than feed wheat grade.

NSW manager for the Australian Wheat Board, Mr Tom Pile, said farmers this year were benefitting from better receival standards than in the previous wet harvest year, 1983.

There is now an intermediate grade (General

Purposes) between ASW and feed wheat and most downgraded wheat was not attracting the full feed wheat dockage.

Mr Pile, who attended several grower meetings last week, said that although most farmers were not out to slam the Wheat Board over receival standards and grading procedures, many did not understand the Guaranteed Minimum Price (GMP) structure (see story, page 7).

Grain Handling Authority staff said this week they suspected that many farmers were holding back feed grade wheat to see what price they were offered for permit sales.

Central region manager for the GHA, Mr Ian McVey, said that receivals at many sites that had closed had received below estimates, and he believed that some feed wheat was being withheld.

At Narrabri, the manager of the Prime Wheat Association, Mr Tom Keene, said that anything from 100,000 to 200,000 tonnes of feed wheat could be held on farms in the north.

Acting GHA managing director, Mr Graeme Watsford, warned farmers who might be holding feed wheat back in the hope of obtaining a better price that they might find their silos shut if they decided to deliver it to the GHA.

Mr McVey said the

level of sprouted wheat in the central region ranged from 25 pc in many districts to 100 pc in the Cowra area.

In most cases wheat was being downgraded only to GP, although at some silos the split was about 50-50 between GP and feed wheat.

He said quality tended to be higher in western parts of the region than in the east.

Southern region GHA manager, Mr Bob Hankins, said that although about half the receivals so far had been ASW or better, quality was expected to worsen as later sown crops were harvested.

Acting northern region GHA manager, Mr Kevin Lloyd, said quality was improving in the Tamworth area with most wheat making ASW or Northern Hard One.

He said harvesting in the Moree and Narrabri districts was almost finished.

About 60,000 tonnes of wheat in the Narrabri district had been graded feed wheat, he said.

Meanwhile the Australian Wheat Board has paid \$828.2 million in first advance payments for 6.4 million tonnes of wheat according to Wheat Board senior manager (accounting), Mr John Freeburn.

With nine million tonnes already delivered to the individual Grain Handling Authorities, Mr Freeburn said the Wheat Board now had an average payment turnaround time of only two days once information was received from the GHAs.

According to the Wheat Board, most of the payments so far have been for ASW wheat which must be free of any sprouted grains.

FRG URANIUM MINER ABANDONS LOCAL EXPLORATION

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN 26 Dec 85 p 11

[Article by Ian Howarth]

[Text]

URANGESELLSCHAFT
Australia Pty Ltd (UG), the local arm of the uranium exploration company established by the West German Government, will quit exploration in Australia.

The decision follows action by the Federal Government in February when it accused UG of trying to subvert Australia's uranium export policies.

The Government accused UG of selling a 100-tonne shipment of uranium to a French trading company to extricate itself from a contract with the operators of the Ranger uranium mine in the Northern Territory.

The company strongly denied the accusation.

This week, UG's sole remaining Australian representative, Mr John Barr, said the decision to quit Australia was a direct result of commercial and political factors.

UG is the holder of a 4 per cent equity in the Ranger mine, operated by Energy Resources of Australia Ltd (ERA); a 10 per cent stake in the Yeelirrie uranium project in Western Australia and a 40 per cent stake in the Westmoreland uranium deposit in Queensland.

Mr Barr said the decision to quit Australia was disappointing.

He described the Federal Government's action as "commercially unprecedented".

Mr Barr said UG was engaged in negotiations to sell most of its Australian interests, which included substantial equity interests in a wide range of exploration leases.

The company was at one time Australia's major uranium exploration group.

It once employed 24 field geologists, but in the past 12 months its exploration efforts have been considerably scaled down in the face of a declining world market for uranium, and intense political opposition.

Reputation

UG will retain its Ranger, Yeelirrie and Westmoreland interests.

Mr Barr said the company had reduced its international uranium exploration efforts in the past year in the face of the shrinking world demand.

It is particularly active in the United States, Canada and South America.

Mr Barr was reluctant to comment on whether Australia's reputation as an international trading partner had been substantially harmed by the Federal Government's actions.

The company said in an advertisement in *The Australian* announcing its decision: "UG Australia Pty Ltd will cease exploration in Australia and

close its office at 608 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne on December 20, 1985."

It was signed by Dr W.E. Schindlmayr, managing director, technical.

The political drama which prompted UG to leave Australia was sparked by the Federal Minister for Trade, Mr Dawkins.

Mr Dawkins issued a statement which said he believed UG had contrived a situation which it hoped would permit it to break a contract with ERA.

The contract specified UG would accept 400 short tonnes of uranium yellowcake a year from the Ranger mine.

Mr Dawkins accused UG of trying to sell 100 tonnes of yellowcake to a French trading company in a bid to have the sale stopped by the Australian Government.

He said this stoppage would then allow UG to withdraw entirely from its contract.

However, UG denied the charge strenuously and said that even if the Government stopped the sale, it would not be able to cancel the contract.

The matter went as high as embassy level in Australia and West Germany and caused a diplomatic furore.

Mr Dawkins accused UG of trying to pull out of its contract on commercial grounds. He said the Australian floor price for uranium, which is the minimum price paid by UG for ERA yellowcake, was higher than the prevailing international spot price at the time.

Ultimately, Mr Dawkins declined to ban the sale of the disputed 100-tonne shipment of yellowcake. He said he was convinced the U308 was not destined for use in France despite it being sold to the French trading company, Enership SA.

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CSO: 5100/4304

BURMA

ANNOUNCEMENT ON EXCHANGE OF DEMONETIZED NOTES

BK171234 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Announcement of the Refund Scrutiny Central Body of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma on matter of issuing legal tender notes for the remainder of deposits of demonetized currency notes--dated 17 January 1986]

[Text] 1. As a first step, legal tender notes in exchange for the remainder of the demonetized currency notes left on balance in the banks were issued starting 1 January 1986 to the working people and organizations that deposited up to 1,000 kyat.

2. As a second step, arrangements have already been made for the banks on behalf of the Refund Scrutiny Central Body to issue legal tender notes in exchange for the remainder to the working people and organizations that deposited up to 3,000 kyat on Monday 20 January between 0900 and 1500.

[3]. Refunds will be made at the banks where the demonetized notes were deposited. Refunds being made to those who deposited up to 1,000 kyat will continue to be made. Further announcements will be made for those who deposited more than 3,000 kyat.

4. When drawing the legal tender notes, people are required to produce the original deposit forms and the national or foreign national registration card they submitted at the time of depositing the demonetized currency notes.

5. If the person who signed the demonetized notes himself deposited them, his national or foreign national registration card must be produced when the refunds are drawn. If the person who signed the demonetized notes did not deposit the notes himself, then the national or foreign national registration card of both the signatory and the depositer must be produced when the refund is drawn.

6. Refunds will be made only when the national or foreign national registration card and the original deposit form are furnished.

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CSO: 4211/21

BURMA

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR APPOINTED TO CANADA--Rangoon, 3 Jan--The president of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma [SRUB] has appointed U Ba Thwin, director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRUB to Canada. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 3 Jan 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/588

FIJI

PROBLEMS OF NATIONAL FEDERATION PARTY EXAMINED

Suva THE FIJI TIMES in English 31 Dec 85 p 13

[Article by Richard Naidu]

[Text]

SOMEWHERE out there in the South Pacific Ocean, the steamer *Federation Warrior*, is sinking, badly holed by a mine called the Ba by-election.

Its 17 remaining crew members gather at the up-
permost part of the ship — its stern — contemplating the long jump into oblivion below.

All but its captain, Sid Koya. Captain Sid, a seagoing veteran of many years, is up to his neck in water as he stands, unwavering, at the helm.

"This," he bellows, "is a little bit of temporary difficulty."

Four of his crew members have already leapt overboard.

Mrs Irene Jai Narayan swims resolutely ahead. Mr Arthur Jennings heads for a desert island called Republic.

Dr Satendra Nandan waves frantically at the fast-
approaching galley, the good ship *Labour*, while Mr Hargovind Lodhia treads water and wonders what to do next.

Happily beached on an island called Lucrative Law Practice, former Captain Jai Ram Reddy eyes the fate of what was once his ship, keeping another eye on *Labour*, a few members of whose crew are quite keen to pick him up.

Always a bit of a tramp steamer, the *Federation Warrior*. Knew that it came from

the cane-fields, but when the time came to look for a broader horizon, it wandered around aimlessly, never sure of which direction was the right one.

Now, it appears, it might have found its niche, ex-Captain Reddy ponders thoughtfully — the bottom.

Far ahead, the paddle-steamer Alliance, wheels turning furiously, is trying to put some distance between itself and *Labour*, whose oarsmen are pulling hard. This is a working man's ship, after all.

It hasn't been such a good year for the Alliance. When first mate Qionibaravi slapped on a freeze, *Labour* emerged from the ice.

Senior officer Beddoes ruminates thoughtfully on an iceberg called the Housing Authority. The Alliance rammed it twice, on his orders, but it was a very messy affair before it sank.

There was the bus fares fiasco, the embarrassment over the Government shipyard and a shallow reef called the Thai Affair.

Captain Mara, in a bid to tighten up a bit on the handling of the ship, threw Second Officer Leweniqila into the hold. He's been roaring a bit, but he's being kept under control.

Then again, ponders Captain Mara, we picked up another seat in Parliament, a couple of

town councils — but what does it all mean?

He thinks back to that nasty three-way collision on December 14. His boat came out the best off — for the moment. But maybe it would have been better if the Federation Warrior hadn't been hit so hard.

Captain Sid, too, has much to think about.

That first collision in March with a little-known dinghy called NFP Youth had really shown up the rot in his hull. He'd nearly had to walk the plank.

First Mate Jai Narayan behaved very badly all year, especially when he threw her off the captain's deck. She'd conjured up this Independent ship from out of nowhere and turned the Suva City Council election into a real free-for-all.

Then Ba. A good thing James had been left in charge there, or it might have been worse.

Exactly who is captain of Labour it's a bit difficult to see. But there's a gleam in their eyes as they look over the new woodwork, check the distance between themselves and Alliance and look ahead.

The commentators, you might say, are all at sea.

Will there be a snap election in 1986?

Despite all the talk, and barring a major catastrophe, the Alliance might be better-advised just to sit it out, let the profile of Labour sink a little lower, think up something to throw these upstarts into disarray or, with luck, wait for them to do it themselves.

For the moment, its Fijian-general elector support is holding better than Labour expected — although Labour knows that too, and is hardly likely to be sitting around and doing nothing about it.

Labour, if it is in the mood to celebrate, will be raising its collective beer-mug to Mr Koya and his supporters. Never have so few done so much to advance so far the causes of so many of their opponents.

The resignation promise in Lautoka and the subsequent row over the Opposition "Berlin Wall", the arbitrary dumping of Mrs Jai Narayan, the excessive Sugar Cane Growers Council budget, the failure to provide more than token resist-

ance to the national Budget and the disarray and complacency before and after the Suva City Council elections — they all add up.

Last year, when Mr Koya took over the reins of the party, he promised: "No more 1977s."

After the rise of the Independents in Suva, the falling away of his Parliamentary bloc and Labour's near-triumph in what should have been a blue-ribbon NFP seat in Ba, those words sound hollow.

Mr Koya is the politician of 1985. No man has changed the face of Fiji politics more this year, albeit unwittingly. The Fiji Labour Party could not have done without him.

Mr Koya has shown in the short space of time he has been back at the top of the NFP heap that he is a man past his time.

He has not yet seen that it takes more than his own brand of power politics, sugar cane and the Indian community to look like an alternative government.

With the NFP almost past salvage, its strategists are working on a plan for the 1987 election. Winning it is not one of its scenarios.

The plan is for a strong effort to hold on to half a dozen Indian communal seats, carefully picked for the popularity of its MPs.

Possibly, candidates could be placed in other constituencies. They would be used to pressure the other two parties into striking unholy bargains, or to play "spoiler" roles — drawing off support to keep the number of seats held by the other two as even as possible.

Then, if it worked, with its small clump of seats, the NFP would hold an influential position in Parliament — with luck, even the balance of power.

And, ironically, be more powerful with half-a-dozen odd seats than it ever was with the 24 it won 3½ years ago.

FIJI

MAIN ISSUES OF 1985 SUMMARIZED

Suva THE FIJI TIMES in English 31 Dec 85 p 12

[Article by Asha Lakan]

[Text] IT WAS a year of confrontation.

The two major combatants, the Government and the trade unions, faced each other across the ring, waiting to take a swipe at the other at every available opportunity.

Forgotten were the much-vaunted principles of the "Pacific Way" and dialogue and discussion ... and the accord that had made the Tripartite Forum the envy of the Third World.

A Government grappling with the problems of a sick economy, rising unemployment and crime, escalating wage bill and debt servicing charges, chose to adopt a tough, no-nonsense attitude.

It clamped on the wage and salaries freeze, vowed to bring the all-too-powerful trade union movement into line and increasingly resorted to legislative measures to deal with its problems.

The unions, made hostile by the Government's arbitrary imposition of the wage freeze, and what they regarded as "semi slave labour" in the form of the Volunteer Service Scheme, prepared to battle it out.

The stage was thus set for a long-drawn out battle.

And confrontation it was ... on the education front, the political field, as well as the more traditional employment setting.

The employers, who were at best ring-side spectators, at first applauded the Government's hard-line attitude, but the applause gave way to increasing uneasiness as they watched the economy plunge even further, consumer demand lessen with declining purchasing power, and worker enthusiasm dampen, as a result of the freeze.

By July, the official voice of the employers, the Fiji Employers Consultative Association, had joined that of the trade unions in seeking a lifting of the freeze as it was "economically unhealthy".

The year opened with the unions threatening a national strike to fight the wage freeze.

The date set was February 12. It would give the essential services time to lodge a 28-day strike notice.

The Government, refusing to negotiate under duress, threatened instead to deregister the trade unions and warned of mass dismissals of Government employees "within the law".

The Prime Minister, holding that the freeze was not negotiable, announced plans to use the army and the navy to keep the country from grinding to a halt.

A showdown was plainly averted with Mother Nature intervening in the form of Cyclones Eric and Nigel.

The unions, mindful of the battering the country had already received, backed off their strike stand.

Round one had obviously gone to the Government.

The next round to resume soon, was fought in the education arena.

A collision that had been simmering between the teachers' unions and the Ministry of Education since 1984 but more particularly with the announcement of a scheme to introduce Volunteer Service, flared into the open in early February with Vanua Levu teachers threatening a strike over the transfer of union official Gajendra Prasad to Bua from Labasa.

While this particular strike was averted, emotions already pitched at blazing point were ready to erupt at the next available opportunity.

The Volunteer Service Scheme provided the fuse. Towards the end of February, about 60 per cent of the country's 8000 teachers stopped teaching to protest against the scheme.

The Ministry of Education retaliated by threatening to sack teachers on strike but the threat was la-

ter withdrawn when both the parties agreed to refer the issue of Volunteer Service to arbitration.

Thirteen days later the teachers were back at work ... but not before the Fiji Trades Union Congress had had the opportunity to display a semblance of solidarity.

After all, didn't the National Union of Municipal Workers rally round with that notorious scheme of refusing to collect the garbage from homes of Education Minister, Dr Ahmed Ali, and Secretary, Narsi Raniga?

Fiji Public Service Association secretary, Mahendra Chaudhry, faced court action for ordering Post Office staff to place a ban on all mail for the Ministry as well as the Public Service Commission.

The Ministry of Education did not lack support either.

Labour Minister, Mr Mohammed Ramzan, activated a somewhat-forgotten law which would allow him to ban sympathy action by other unions.

Although the law was never enforced, it served to infuriate the unions further. They saw it as another move to "stifle the trade union movement".

In the meantime the Government called a National Economic Summit in a bid to seek support for its policies.

The trade union movement and the Opposition National Federation Party boycotted what they described as merely "an exercise in public relations".

The next two months, March and April, saw the heated atmosphere cooling off somewhat as unions became preoccupied with their own internal affairs.

coping with elections and annual general meetings.

But ground was being quietly prepared for the third round of confrontation ... this time in the political arena!

At conferences and congresses, trade union leaders lashed out at the Government's attempt to use political power to suppress the unions.

FTUC secretary, Mr James Raman, told the Labour Summit in May that curbs were being imposed through such means as the re-activating of dormant provisions of the Trade Disputes Act, restricting collective bargaining, introduction of the Volunteer Service scheme with rates of pay inferior to negotiated scales and increasing incidence of unions being taken to court for alleged breaches of the Trade Disputes Act.

A few days later he told another union meeting that the movement must find means of cushioning itself from these onslaughts.

In July, the trade unions launched the Fiji Labour Party giving the disgruntled, the disenchanted and the disapproving, a third political option.

It quickly became the voice of the people, using the political forum as an opportunity to lash out at the Government on every issue: the bus fares, the insurance premium hikes for cyclone cover, the plight of the Ba Methodist Hospital, the Thai affair, sugar matters, the Housing Authority saga, and Government inefficiency, bungling, and corruption in general.

The masses, resenting what they saw as an unholy alliance between the Government and the elite in society, as evidenced in increased prices for food and other essential commodities, increases in school bus fares sanctioned by the Government, cuts in education and health service pro-

visions, rallied round the new party.

While the political battle continued in the municipal council elections and the by-elections, round four of the tussle took place in the more traditional battle ground of the factories.

It started off as a struggle to unionise workers in Lees Trading Co. factories but ended in another confrontation between the Government and the unions.

The closure of Lees Can-Plast factory in Nasinu was seen by Mr Raman as the Government's failure to put pressure on Lees management to settle the issue.

Minister Ramzan's order declaring the Customs black ban on Lees illegal and ordering the Lees strikers back to work, was simply seen as another indication of the Government's anti-union stand.

It was doubtful to pin the winner of this particular round: The union was thwarted in its fight against the management but then the 60-odd Lees workers put out of a job joined the ranks of the country's rising band of un-employed.

The last round of confrontations for 1985 seems like spilling into the new year: in the negotiations to reach an accord on the wage guidelines for 1986.

With neither side at present showing any tendency to compromise, the talks are shaping up as an interesting tussle.

The Government is threatening to continue with the wage freeze unless an agreement is reached on the pay guideline.

The unions retort that as the freeze was initially an arbitrary decision by the Government, it could go ahead and lift it whenever it wanted to.

It's anyone's guess who will win this round.

INDONESIA

DAILY COMMENTS ON COMMUNIST THREAT TO ASEAN

BK170907 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 15 Jan 86 p 4

[Editorial: "ASEAN and Communist Insurgency"]

[Text] Beginning from the day before yesterday senior ASEAN Foreign Ministry officials have been holding a 3-day conference to discuss a possible area of cooperation in tackling the escalating tide of communist insurgency in the Southeast Asian region, especially in the Philippines. The 3-day meeting will assess the impact of the communist threat on the region's stability.

Communist underground and guerrilla activities are rife in the Southeast Asian region. They get support from the People's Republic of China, at least morally and politically. Beijing never disowns this support. On the other hand Moscow-supported communists may advance southward through Moscow's support of Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea.

Outside ASEAN they have been active in Burma almost since the beginning of its independence. In ASEAN countries they have been active in Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines, especially in the Philippines. In Indonesia itself their activities are latent, trying to infiltrate government apparatus and sociopolitical and mass-organisations. Indeed they are a threat to ASEAN unity and cohesiveness and the region's stability. Their advance must be checked by the ASEAN countries together and in a coordinated and integrated way. It is our hope that the senior officials will be able to gauge the magnitude of the communist activities and their impact on the stability and security of the region, and suggest a joint means to overcome them.

Special attention must be focused on communist activities in the Philippines since it is facing general elections on 7 February 1986. The underground communists with their NPA (New People's Army) of about 150,000 could pose a serious menace to orderly and smooth elections and upset the election results. If they join force with the opposition led by the Aquino-Laurel combination, they may frustrate President Marcos' chance to be reelected. The armed forces may not like the idea of the communists getting into power through the opposition. This may create open clashes and chaos.

If the Philippines is to be lost to the communists, ASEAN will certainly be in great difficulty. But luckily the situation is not so serious as depicted in the press. During his short visit to the Philippines last week, Armed Forces Commander General Murdani revealed that the Philippines asked for Indonesia's understanding that condition in the Philippines is not as bad as projected by the foreign press.

General Murdani and his group went to the Philippines to deliver two Casa aircrafts loaned by the government of Indonesia to the government of the Philippines to combat the communist insurgency as a token of ASEAN solidarity and concrete cooperation. The aircrafts are made in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, ASEAN must continue to persuade Beijing to stop supporting communist activities in Southeast Asia. If Beijing gives this commitment, perhaps all ASEAN countries will be willing to establish normal diplomatic relations with Beijing.

On the other hand, ASEAN must see that Moscow supported communists' presence in Kampuchea should not spill over toward the south. Therefore it is understandable why the Thai Foreign Ministry welcomed on Friday the statement reported to have been made by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa in Moscow that the Soviet Union was opposed to a military settlement in Kampuchea. Political settlement will save Thailand from the spillover.

/9604
CSO: 4200/589

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

MOKHTAR RETURNS FROM CONFERENCE--Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja returned to Jakarta after attending the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers conference in Fez, Morocco. From Morocco, the minister continued his journey to Belgium and the Netherlands. Minister Mokhtar said this afternoon at the Sukarno-Hatta airport in Cangkereng that at the conference in Fez Indonesia gave its political solidarity, together with that of the other ICO member countries, to Libya in facing threats from the United States in conjunction with the accusation that Libya was involved in terrorist attacks in Rome and Vienna. Concerning his visit to Belgium and the Netherlands, the foreign minister said he appealed for their understanding concerning Indonesia's desire to be headquarters of the International Tropical Timber Organization. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Jan 86] /9604

SWEDISH AMBASSADOR MEETS SPEAKER--Swedish Ambassador to Indonesia Arne Lellki paid a farewell call on House Speaker Amir Makhmud in Jakarta 15 January. The house speaker expressed his hope that Indonesian-Swedish relations will be further enhanced in the future. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 15 Jan 86] /9604

1985 FOREIGN RESERVES--Central Bank Governor Arifin Siregar said that as of December 1985 Indonesia's foreign reserves stood at \$10.7 billion. Speaking to newsmen after meeting with President Suharto on 14 January, the Central Bank governor also disclosed the desire of the banking community to support national economic activities in accordance with the draft state budget for the 1986-87 fiscal year. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 14 Jan 86] /9604

1985 EXPORT VALUE--Speaking to newsmen after meeting with President Suharto in Jakarta on 14 January, Trade Minister Rakhmat Saleh said that Indonesia's exports in 1985 was registered at \$4.841 billion, compared to \$4.833 billion in 1984. [Summary] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 14 Jan 86] /9604

PREACHER JAILED--Jakarta, 15 Jan (ANTARA)--H. Mawardi Noor, 67, a former chairman of the Indonesian Moslem preachers, was sentenced to 14 years in jail by the east Jakarta district court here Wednesday. The judges panel presided over by Ahmad Hasan said the defendant was found guilty of committing a series of subversive activities undermining the government authority and deviating the state ideology Pancasila. The court said that Mawardi in his lectures had made statements against Pancasila as the sole basis for political and mass organizations, general elections, family planning programs and law on mass organization. The court also decided that all evidence, consisting of recorded cassettes containing his lectures, brochures and other transcripts were confiscated and destroyed. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 1645 GMT 15 Jan 86] /9604

MALAYSIAN ARMY CHIEF VISITS--Jakarta, 22 Jan (ANTARA)--Malaysian Army Commander in Chief (Tentara Darat Diraja Malaysia) Gen Datuk Mohamed Hashim Bin Mohamed Ali paid a courtesy call on Minister of Security and Defence Poiniman at the latter's office here Wednesday. Poiniman at the meeting had given outline on the headway achieved in the cooperation between the armed forces of the two neighbouring countries, a release from Ministry of Security and Defence said. He expressed the hope that the cooperation that had made a close and considerable progress should be further maintained with the exchanges of experience and education. Minister of security and defence also offered his congratulations to Gen Datuk Mohamed Hashim Bin Mohamed Ali who had been awarded the "Bintang Kartika Ekapaksi Utama" from President Suharto. General Dato was in Indonesia as the guest of Army Chief of Staff General Rudini. General Dato at the meeting with minister of security and defence was accompanied by General Rudini and Malaysian Ambassador to Indonesia Mohamed Khatib Bin Abdul Hamid. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA in English 1505 GMT 22 Jan 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/589

LAOS

TECHNICAL COOPERATION, AID FROM BULGARIA DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 20 Nov 85 p 3

["Ten Years of the LPDR in the International Arena" Column: "Laos-Bulgaria Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] There has long been friendships and mutual cooperation between the peoples of Laos and Bulgaria, and these have always been strengthened and improved. Especially since 4 October 1979 the friendship and cooperation between the two nations has been growing in all aspects as indicated in the friendship accord signed by the leaders of the two countries.

In the past 10-year period the Bulgarian party and government and its people have promoted fine relations and sincere assistance towards the LPDR in order to take part in constructing the economy and raising the standard of living of the Lao people. The government of the Bulgarian People's Republic has assisted Laos in constructing a vegetable growing station in Tha Ngon, for constructing an oil refining station in Houa Sikai, constructing a hydropower plant, and in manufacturing wood and resin in Nakai. Also there is along term plan for cooperation from 1986 to 1990 regarding assistance in technical science for using techniques in production. Generally speaking, the assistance of the BPR has two forms, grants and loans. Grants have been carried out 85 percent and loans 26 percent. All this is meant to promote forces in strengthening the economy of our LPDR. The PRB has also sent its experts to help Laos and has accepted Lao students to study engineering in Bulgaria. There are over 266 high-level and 190 mid-level students. This has demonstrated the significant victory of the relations and assistance of Bulgaria to Laos.

9884/13068
CSO: 4206/34

LAOS

FIRST DECADE OF LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC REVIEWED

PASASON Editor Discusses Cooperatives, GDR Aid

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Dec 85 p 7

[Article by Son Khamvongsa, editor-in-chief of PASASON, central LPRP organ:
"A Successful Decade of Socialist Construction"]

[Excerpts] The country now has 3,184 farm cooperatives, which include 61.5 percent of all peasant families. That is very important for surmounting the fragmented small-size production of natural produce and creating the socialist large-scale production of the future.

The degree of agricultural mechanization has increased considerably. Melioration, two harvests per year, and growing new varieties turned into a regular movement. Much like foodstuffs production, other sectors of the economic base also are being developed step by step: lumber production, transportation, the infrastructure and electricity. The workers class and the working people all over the country did pledge themselves to a great task these days: to finish the first 5-year plan (1981-1985) with success.

As to education, it may be pointed out that illiteracy on the national scale has been eliminated. Whereas in 1975, a total of 355,456 pupils attended Laotian educational institutions, today the general education schools alone have nearly 600,000 pupils.

We are very grateful for the great, sincere, and effective help from the parties, governments, and peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, including the SED and the GDR people. Specialists from that friendly republic have aided the Laotian working people in economic construction and cultural development. Hundreds of Laotian technicians, teachers, physicians, and others, who studied in the GDR, are already making a growing contribution to socialist construction. There are more technicians, students and candidates now taking part in training and advanced education in the GDR.

GDR Correspondent Describes Forestry Training, Coffee Growing

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Dec 85 p 7

[Article by Bernd Findeis: "Dong Dok Pupils Want to Unlock the Treasures of the Mountain Forests"]

[Text] Under the wings of the aircraft the green pleated carpet of the Laotian mountains is gliding along. It gives you pause at times, too. Three million tons of bombs have come down onto this land during the war and left their traces here on nature. Furthermore, the uncontrolled cutting of the past and the slash and burn--the traditional form of applied agriculture--have marred the landscape.

Cutting Back in Slash and Burn Step by Step

Just 400,000 ha water rice fields are available in the country's plains. On another 283,000 ha mountain rice was harvested in 1985--on acreages sloping up to 60 degrees and made fertile prior to cultivation by the burning of grass, scrub, and undergrowth. This mountain rice often costs them dearly: the destruction of valuable timber which, in turn, leads to soil erosion and to upsets in the ground water level. Sixty percent of Laotian territory was once covered by water; today, only 47 percent is still covered.

The young people's power, however, has meanwhile taken a number of measures in cautiously cutting back in slash and burn and containing the damage. A comprehensive 20-year program has been prepared for reforestation and forest protection; e.g., 7.8 million young trees have already been planted since 1978.

Seeking to use its forests sensibly, its resources in teak, sandalwood, mahogany and rosewood, Laos has for years received aid from the GDR. Young Laotians are being trained in forestry schools in Lychen, Tharandt, Eberswalde and other places in our republic. Also growing is the number of those studying at the Dong Dok forestry school near Vientiane.

Since 1980, GDR specialists have helped train forestry experts there. Class-rooms and boarding rooms, laboratories and testing areas were set up on 13 hectare. A forest tree school was set up, and equipment and instruction materials were made available--for the most part financed by solidarity donations from the workers of the GDR.

Specialists from our republic have taught and counseled Laotian teachers on teaching, have drawn up teaching plans and made instruction materials. Right now the forester Siegfried Gregor of Magdeburg and district forester Christian Hojenski are working in Dong Dok.

"I believe our specialists have already effectively helped Laotian forestry," Siegfried Gregor said when we were talking. "Through training specialists at the forestry school, a decisive prerequisite has been set for using the forestry resources of the country in the country's interest over the long haul."

Already 343 Foresters of Their Own in Virgin Forest Regions

In courses usually taking 2 years 343 Laotian foresters have thus far been trained, 56 women among them. When they return to their regions in all provinces, they are well educated in the basics of the natural and social sciences, forestry, botany, forest mensuration, forest protection and forest utilization, in road construction and topography, even in aerial photo exploitation and entomology. Another 155 students are to graduate from that school next year.

Be it here at the Dong Dok forestry school or at the Pakpassak vocational school in the capital, where an FDJ friendship brigade has been at work for years, or on the Boloven Plateau in south Laos, where GDR specialists assist in coffee growing--everywhere the fraternal ties between our two states are being felt. The assignment of specialists exemplifies that as much as do the craftshops that were set up, the training of some 600 Laotian students at GDR colleges and technical schools, or the printing of 625,000 schoolbooks for the country on the Mekong. Moreover, the 1000th Laotian apprentice began his vocational training in the GDR this year. This is also appreciated in Laos as a contribution to the formation of the young Laotian workers class.

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CSO: 4620/15

LAOS

FOREIGN TRADE RELATIONSHIPS DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 27 Nov 85 p 3

["Ten Years of the LPDR in the International Arena" Column: "[Lao] Foreign Trade Over the Past 10 Years"]

[Excerpt] By believing in the foreign trade policy of the party for turning the direction of trade toward the sea in the east, by cooperating with fraternal socialist countries, and by ultimately aiming at socialism and decreasing trade relations and imports from the west, in the past 10 years the cooperation in trade exchange of (Kleuy Hing) with fraternal socialist countries has been steadily improved, e.g., with the USSR, Vietnam, Cambodia and other fraternal countries such as the German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, and Hungary. The relations are based on mutual interests as assistance for the better living of the peoples of each nation. The 10 years for the transformation and socialist countries in terms of both quantity and value each year, including most of the exports and imports, and shows that the 1985 exports have increased by a factor of 2.4 when compared with that in 1981 and 4.8 when compared with that in 1978, including exports to the USSR which in 1984 increased by a factor of 3.7 when compared with the figure for 1981. The 1984 exports to Vietnam increased by a factor of 1.9 over 1981 and 3.2 over 1976. Imports from socialist countries in 1985 increased by a factor of 2.2 when compared with that in 1981 and 2.6 when compare with the figure for 1976. Imports from the USSR in 1985 increased by a factor of 3.9 when compared with that in 1981 and 2.47 times in 1985 when compared with the figures in 1981, and a 3.5 times increase when compared with that for 1976.

Our nation has just been liberated from the war of aggression of the imperialists. Previously it was a country with outmoded economic production and serious imbalance. Agriculture production had not yet been expanded. Demand outran supply, exports were less than imports. Industry did not yet serve agriculture. Communications and transportation still encountered problems. At the same time out Lao people carried out national construction and improvement in order to heal the wounds of war. However, our Lao people cannot do this in peace. The imperialists and the Beijing reactionaries use Thai territory as a lever in propagandizing and slandering the new regime, and they use psychological warfare and economic policy to have the domestic merchants in our country incite the markets and create unrest. What is worse

is that they have used their forces to encroach. The aim of all these is to use a strategy for converting from peace.

On seeing these problems, and because of mutual sympathy based on international socialism, fraternal socialist countries have helped us in every way, generally speaking and particularly in the area of trade, whether by loans, grants or sending in cadres and experts to work closely with us and to share their experiences with us so that we can apply all this to the actual situation in Laos.

In order to succeed in the goal of socialist economic construction, our country still needs a lot of assistance. In addition to the great and sincere aid from fraternal socialist countries, we also have a policy to try to obtain assistance from international organizations and other nations that have good intentions toward us, which maintain relations with us based on the principle of cooperation where both sides have mutual interests and respect for the independence and sovereignty of each other, and do not interfere in each other's internal affairs.

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CSO: 4206/34

LAOS

USSR EXPERT REPORTS ON ROUTE 9 PROGRESS

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 19 Nov 85 pp 2, 4

[Article by Insi Souphap: "One Part of Route 9 Prior to 2 December, the National Day"]

[Excerpts] The preparation for asphalt paving on one part of Route 9 for 3 km in the Outhoumphon District municipal area of Savannakhet Province is one of the things to be completed as planned.

Comrade Thongleuan Phomlouangvisa, assistant chief of the Route 9 construction headquarters, along with Comrade (Sakulatovik), construction engineer first class and Comrade Viktor, architectural engineer [first class] and the USSR experts who are working on Route 9 told us that in the plan and expected levels for the preparation to pave the part of Route 9 that goes past Outhoumphon District there are five main tasks: installation of a forge to boil the asphalt which began on 14 July 1985, where the first system was completed in early October and the second system was completed 80 percent; the installation of a stone-crushing machine to separate different kinds of stones according to the standard sizes needed also completed; the transporting of mountain rocks in Pha Hom by the workers of Transport Company No 2 under the Route 9 construction headquarters. In September alone they were able to transport a total of 1,857 cubic meters of rock with 369 trips. Also, the put in a roadbed and upgraded the road surface to standard; dug water drainage ditches, laid cement pipes, and carried out preparations for boiling the asphalt.

The plan and the capacity for each phase of the work is as follows: paving asphalt 12 meters wide and 2 km long; paving asphalt 7 meters wide and 1 km long; digging water drainage ditches 2 meters deep [80 cm deep] and 1.5 meters wide at the base; the total length of water drainage ditches is 1,500 meters. Firewood must be prepared to boil the 6,000 cubic meters of asphalt.

Each phase of the preparation in the plan to pave asphalt via Outoumphon District municipality began in October and is expected to be completed prior to this coming National Day on 2 December.

With confidence, strength, a complete set of machinery, and enthusiasm, and the individual technicians and workers being a driving force by receiving the

close technical assistance from the experts who are working as a driving force on Route 9, Comrade Thongleuan Phomlouangvisa also expressed confidence that each plan would be gloriously completed, and completed prior to the expected plan because in a few days in mid-October when they started it could be seen the amount of success in each aspect of the work was progressing toward the expected success accordingly.

9884/13068
CSO: 4206/34

LAOS

BRIEFS

PAKSONG COFFEE MILL--Paksong District lies on a plateau approximately 1,250 meters above sea level. It is now an industrial center and the party and the government are redeveloping it. The hydropower plant will go from 25 kW to 85 kW to supply sufficient power to the factories, e.g., a modern coffee mill which produces 20 tons of dried coffee per day. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 25 85 pp 2, 3] 9884/13068

SAVANNAKHET CAPITAL FORMATION, SAVINGS--The people's volunteering to deposit their savings is a duty to promote production and to raise the standard of living of the people of ethnic groups to assure the need for national defense and security work and also the construction of the necessary material and technical base for society. Its purpose is also to facilitate the protection and circulation of currency according to the direction of the Council of Ministers on the improvement and the increased circulation and stabilization of the currency, and also the improvement of the purchasing power of the kip. Also, it is to encourage bank credit and clearing, and also to guarantee the capital for production and business to be consistent with the policy set by the party and government in each period. In fact, the first period of the national liberation from 1975 to 1976 there were only 38,140 kip deposited in the savings of the masses in Savannakhet Province, but within the past 8 months in 1985 the savings deposit figure in this province increased to 2,961,583 kip, an increase by a factor of 77.65 when compared with that in 1976. If we calculate this on a yearly basis, since 1976 the savings deposited by the cadres, workers and the people throughout the province and indifferent districts within Savannakhet Province totalled 8,323,975 kip. Along with the savings deposits, the savings a lottery of the masses within the province is another process that is being actively and extensively carried out. For the period from 1984 to the first 8 months of 1985 it is already 1,402,900 kip. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Nov 85 p 2] 9884/13068

ANIMAL FEED PLANTS--Animal food concentrate plants are important for animal husbandry, and have also become a force in national transformation and construction toward socialism as expected. After the national liberation was complete, because of the brilliant leadership of the party and the government, and because of the attention of the higher echelons and the understanding of the significance of this work, in 1983 the animal feed plant was set up and it was completed in early 1984 in the Ban Phou area approximately 4 km east of Pakse District with funds from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Agriculture Co-op, and with funds from the province totalling 1,460,000 kip.

Since 1985 the plant has been able to produce a total of 41 tons of animal feed concentrate and 27 tons to general animal feed, including 6,500 kg of animal feed concentrate for pigs, 7,269 kg for chickens that lay eggs, and 135 kg for small chicks. The equipment has a production capacity of 2,000 tons per year. They also raised 500 chickens of good breed and collected a total of 40,000 eggs. The animal feed concentrate that they produce is distributed to other animal-raising stations, e.g., the pig raising station in Na Hek, the chicken raising station in Phou Mouang and the fish raising station in Km 7. It is also partially distributed to the general public. If there is an increase in the amount of ready-made feed consumption by animals in the future, the plant will be able to meet the demand not only within the province but will also be able to send it to the three southern provinces of Saravane, Attopeu, and Sekong. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Nov 85 p 2]
9884/13068

YOUTH UNION MEMBERSHIP--The number of members of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union [LPRYU] has now increased from 150,000 to 185,000. It can be said that every canton in every district in different provinces has an LPRYU organization. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 21 Nov 85 pp 2,3]
9884/13068

ADB-FUNDED VIENTIANE ROAD CONSTRUCTION--Construction and upgrading of the surface of Route 10 is now being carried out in the Thoulakhom District area of Vientiane Province. From now to 2 December the workers of the Vientiane Province Bridge and Road Construction Company will complete the upgrading of 6 additional kilometers of this route. According to Comrade Savat Nokeo, chief of the Vientiane Province Bridge and Construction Company, the construction and upgrading of the surface of Route 10 began on 18 October 1985 starting with a street branching off of Route 10 in Ban Keun to Boungphao Canton. After more than 40 days of work they were able to successfully clear the land and to upgrade 90 percent of the 8-km length of this street. He also emphasized that in this period the workers are focusing on constructing and upgrading the road surface for the first section of Route 10 in Pak Kagnoung Canton for a 9-km length. Route 10 is important for transportation as well as circulation and distribution between Vientiane Capital and Vientiane Province. It branches off from the south of Route 13 in the Don Moun area in Saithani District and goes a distance of over 50 km from Thoulakhom District to Vientiane Province. It will be paved with asphalt. Over 1,000 km of small roads branching off of Route 10 will be constructed with ordinary red dirt. The Ministry of Transportation and Posts is the project owner and the Vientiane Province Bridge and Road Construction Company is the contractor for the construction, with loans from the Asia Development Bank. According to the plan, the construction of this route started in the last phase of the first 5-year plan for economic construction, and it will be completed in the early phase of the second 5-year plan of the government. [Excerpts] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Nov 85 pp 2, 4] 9884/13068

CSO: 4206/34

MALAYSIA

GOVERNMENT COMMENDS AFGHAN RESISTANCE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] Malaysia applauds the courage of the Afghan Mujahidin in having withstood the Soviet aggression for the last six years, Foreign Affairs Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said today.

"Despite the odds that the Afghan Mujahidin had to confront in their struggle to regain their homeland, they have shown continuing resilience and tenacity for freedom and independence," he said in a statement marking the sixth year of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The invasion of Afghanistan by Russian forces was he said "a clear violation of the international principles and a blatant disrespect for independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan."

The act threatened the very foundation of independent states and had also caused intolerable sufferings and devastation.

"Malaysia would like to appeal to the Soviet Union to respond positively to the calls made by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference."

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CSO: 4200/553

MALAYSIA

NORWEGIAN PREMIER SPEAKS ON TRADE AT LUNCHEON

BK140943 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0918 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 14 Jan (OANA-BERNAMA)--Visiting Norwegian Prime Minister Kaare Willoch Tuesday pledged his support for increased transfer of technology to Malaysia to help foster closer trade ties between the two countries.

He welcomed Malaysian Government's move to seek closer ties between the private sectors of the two countries, especially the transfer of Norwegian advanced technology to Malaysia, preferably through joint-ventures. "Wherever possible and to the mutual benefit of our two countries, my government will do what it can to support such initiatives," he said.

Addressing a luncheon for local businessmen and government officials hosted by the Norwegian Export Council here, Willoch, who is here on a 4-day official visit, hoped that his visit would pave the way for greater Norwegian investment in this country. "This would be in keeping with my government's desire to support an on-going process of internationalisation of Norwegian enterprises."

He said R Mahathir Mohamed's visit to Oslo last year had inspired Norway to seek closer cooperation with Malaysia in many fields.

Willoch hoped his visit and that of the leading Norwegian businessmen accompanying him, would serve as a timely follow-up to the Malaysian prime minister's tour and that the visit would result in the forming of new ties and affiliations.

On bilateral trade, he said Norway is still far from being Malaysia's important trading partners and most likely never will be. "But apart from being a reliable importer of some of your raw materials, we also play a role in certain branches of your export industry. For instance, we are the No 1 importer of Malaysian footwear, buying more than 40 percent of your export," he said.

He added that despite Norway's small population of only four million, its high purchasing power coupled with very liberal trade would offer opportunities for high-quality, well-marketed industrial products. Bilateral trade has been in Malaysia's favour.

Norwegian investment in Malaysia is also relatively small, amounting to only 14 million rigoit (about U.S.\$5.83 million) in eight joint venture projects as of the end of 1984.

Among the leading Norwegian firms here are Viking-Askim Co. Ltd., which makes rubber boots; Jotun (M) Co. Ltd., the paint manufacturer; and Scania Co. Ltd., the furniture maker.

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CSO: 4200/590

MALAYSIA

MUSA SCOLDS MALAY BUSINESSMEN

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Dec 85 p 8

[Article by Fizi Ahmad]

[Text] Bumiputera businessmen were today puffed up and them slammed against the wall for a multitude of sins that threaten to wreck the aims of the New Economic Policy.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam, in a two-fisted speech at the opening of the Johore Malay Economic Convention also lambasted several "inherent weaknesses" which Malay businessmen had refused to shed from their psychological makeup.

The three-day meeting being held at Desaru Merlin brings together about 500 businessmen from the State. Top-level executives from public and private sectors, including the Governor of Bank Negara and the chairman of Bank Bumiputera, will address the businessmen and offer them advice.

More Strategies

Datuk Musa, who is chairman of the Johore Umno economic bureau, said that under the NEP, the Malays had achieved a measure of success.

"While it's true that the Malays had managed to achieve some measure of success, especially the NEP targets of eradicating poverty and restructuring society, the Malay society as a whole is still lagging far behind.

"The Government is far from satisfied with the achievements attained so far... And (the Government) knows that the Malays feel the same way.

"But although the slow rate of success was due to a certain extent to the global economic recession, there also exist inherent weaknesses among the Malays that contribute to the larger cause, which I will elaborate."

Before stating the factors, Datuk Musa chose to remind the audience that the Government was not exactly comatose in facing these challenges.

He said the Government had recently announced several new steps to be taken to stimulate the Malaysian economy. More strategies will be announced when the Fifth Malaysia Plan is unveiled in March.

He disclosed that the Industrial Master Plan for the country, which the Cabinet had approved, would be implemented soon.

The Trade and Industry Minister will shortly meet with the various groups representing the private sector and public agencies.

The manufacturing sector, among the areas chosen to dominate all Government plans and schedule, will be given special treatment.

"The manufacturing sector will continue to lead in efforts to realise NEP targets."

Saving the causes for Malay economic malaise for last, Datuk Musa said the top sore point was experience and exposure.

"In just the span of a decade, a great number of Malay businessmen have suddenly appeared but most of them have appeared with a jolt and then leap upright to run straight away."

This is contrary to the normal development of the entrepreneur which should be by gradual stages.

"As a result of the sudden change, Malay businessmen have to face various obstacles and problems.

"When they face these challenges, the Malay businessmen panic, become confused and then start to grab for anything to save themselves."

'Giver-receiver'

The problems and challenges are then magnified out of proportions in the eyes of the Malay businessmen who are suffering from cultural shock.

Other weaknesses are the lack of supportive aid and the negative attitude among those entrusted with giving aid.

"The people given the job of providing support to Malay businessmen have always (looked upon) their tasks as providing favours."

This attitude has nurtured the growth of a "giver-receiver" mentality between the Government agency and the Malay businessman.

Datuk Musa warned that if the attitude was not eradicated, then Malay businessmen would never be able to receive the aid and support which was really meant for the good of the whole community.

The question of whether the NEP will be extended after 1990 should not arise at all.

"We should not rely anymore on a handicap if there are among us leaders in business and industry who are ready to sacrifice their all for the future of the Malays."

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CSO: 4200553

MALAYSIA

MUSA LISTS INDUSTRIAL PLAN GOALS

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 21 Dec 85 p 1

[Article by Sharif Haron]

[Text] The three main goals of the Industrial Master Plan (IMP), to be launched soon, has been decided on, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam said last night.

Opening the Johore Malay Economic Convention organised by the Johore Umno economic bureau at Desaru Merlin, he listed the three objectives as:

To speed up the development of the manufacturing sector to ensure a sustained and fast economic growth, and lay the foundation for the fulfillment of the social objectives in line with the New Economic Policy (NEP);

To promote opportunities for the efficient and maximum utilisation of the abundant natural resources in this country and;

To lay the groundwork for the development of industries that will make Malaysia a developed industrial country through upgrading technological knowhow and internal competition.

Datuk Musa said: "The manufacturing sector has to play a dynamic role in spearheading the approaches to promote the country's economic development."

Giving a peep into the IMP, the deputy prime minister said apart from the manufacturing sector, detailed studies have also been made on agricultural and services sectors.

He said the IMP has been approved by the Cabinet recently and Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will meet several groups in the relevant sectors to explain to them the IMP's implementation.

Apart from the IMP, Datuk Musa said, the government will also take a number of new measures to speed up and sustain economic growth. More will be revealed when the government tables the Fifth Malaysia Plan next March.

All these measures and approaches, Datuk Musa said, show that the government is responsible in finding solutions to the country's economic problems amid the world recession. "We will not fold our arms in facing the world economic slowdown that is affecting our country," he said.

"As we know, in the previous decade, we achieved economic progress mainly through the exports of our primary commodities, and also because of the high prices of these commodities.

"But the favourable situation does not exist anymore. The situation has changed and there's need for a new approach. To sustain our economic development, it is felt that the manufacturing sector should play a dynamic role, thus the three main targets of the IMP," he added.

If these objectives are to be achieved, there must be dynamic attitudes and actions from all parties involved in or related to the industrialisation process.

"By dynamic I mean that our entrepreneurs including Bumiputera entrepreneurs-- should orientate everything towards attitudes and actions that are more innovative and more sophisticated that will finally give us the ability to compete."

"This competing ability is not only for the sake of higher achievements in productivity and quality in the country, but to place Malaysia at a level that is recognised internationally." he said.

Some 500 participants are attending the three-day convention, the first such convention organised by Johore Umno. Among the notable speakers are Bank Bumiputra Malaysia chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail and Bank Negara governor Datuk Jaffar Hussein.

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CSO: 4200/553

MALAYSIA

TIMBER INDUSTRY PROBLEMS OUTLINED

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 25 Dec 85 pp 1, 22

[Article by Azam Aris]

[Text] The economic slowdown has taken its toll. Coupled with slower demand for forest products and falling prices, the timber industry is facing one of its most difficult periods.

Words such as sluggish demand, depressed markets and weak prices are now familiar to timber exporters.

Many sawmills have closed down. In Johore, for example, at least half of the 80 sawmills have shut down.

Since last year a total of 199 sawmills, mostly small and with limited market outlet, have closed down. Deputy Primary Industries Minister Megat Junid Megat Ayob cited the lack of timber supply, lack of orders, capital and management difficulties as the other problems faced by sawmill s.

The timber industry is also badly hit by the increasing cost of production which has outstripped selling prices.

In the first six months of 1985, output of sawlogs were estimated at 13.2 million cu metres, a decline of two per cent over the same period last year. During the same period, the production of sawn timber showed a 0.9 per cent decline to 2.5 million cu metres.

Malaysia's export of sawlogs next year is expected to drop by 2.5 per cent to 17 million cu metres, while exports of sawn timber are estimated to decline by 1.4 per cent to 2.7 million cu metres. The expected drop in production is also due to the continued forest conservation measures taken by the government.

The plywood industry has not fared well either with intense competition from producers such as Indonesia, resulting in a drop in export prices by 18 per cent in the first six months of the year.

Malaysian Plywood Manufacturers Association's chairman, Mr Chai Fook Loong, said most plywood mills have reduced production, and some have ceased

production after having incurred heavy losses. The slowdown in the construction industry has also adversely affected the domestic market of plywood.

"The imposition of the 45 per cent import tariff on plywood imports has not made an impact as imports were negligible," he said. "Steps need to be taken to expand the use of plywood in the domestic market."

Latest statistics show that there are 993 sawmills throughout the country 663 in Peninsula, 213 in Sabah and 123 in Sarawak. However only 808 could be considered active sawmills. There are 48 plywood and veneers plants throughout the country.

But despite the gloomy picture, forestry remains an important contributor to the nation's coffers. Last year, this sector contributed an estimated \$4.2 billion or 10.4 per cent of the country export's earnings. About 75,000 people are employed in logging and forest resource industries.

In the first eight month this year the exports of saw logs, not taking into account exports of other timber products, amounted to \$1.79 billion. This makes sawlogs the fourth largest revenue earner after crude petroleum (\$5.78 billion), thermionic valves and tubes (\$3.01 billion) and rubber (\$1.97 billion).

For the first five months, exports of sawn timber were valued at about \$440 million, wooden mouldings (\$99.8 million), plywood (\$80.5 million), veneer (\$31.8 million) and chipwood (\$3.5 million).

On the brighter side, the timber industry anticipates an expanding market for its products in the US market as soon as the economy recovers. Then there is the unexplored Chinese market which is currently experiencing a boom in its housing and construction sector.

The Japanese government is also expected to cut down the tariff imposed on plywood from between 20 per cent and 15 per cent to 15 per cent and 10 per cent next April.

On the other hand, a five year technical cooperation project between Japan and Malaysia--emphasising on forest products research began this year. Aimed at upgrading the research capabilities of the Forest Research Institute on forest products, the project covers development of local research programmes, exchange of information and training of local officers.

This will prove to be a vital breakthrough, as the expansion of forest research products is of crucial important to improve the yield of the raw materials and make our timber products competitive in the exports markets.

Research and development will also help the industry to utilise the lesser known species to make veneers and plywoods.

Another area in the forestry industries which can be capitalised is in the exports of furniture. Out of the total production of local furniture estimated at \$600 million annually only 5 per cent is exported.

"Despite all the talk about Malaysia having abundant timber and rattan resources and competitive labour cost, the country's share of the international trade in furniture is virtually non-existent," said Encik Ambrin Buang, marketing director of the Malaysia Timber Industry Board.

To facilitate the growth of the local furniture industry, the government has identified four zones suitable for development--two in Johore, one in Selangor and one in the East Coast.

Meanwhile, the government's reforestation policy, a vital step in ensuring the survival of the industry, has resulted in the replanting of 58,458 hectares of forest including pine, accacia mangium, gmelia arborea, meranti, seraya, mahogany, jati, batai and kapor.

The areas replanted with pine trees will be logged in 1990 and acacia and gmelia by 1996.

Though 61.8 per cent of 20.4 million hectares of land in the country is covered by forests, an international task force on Forestry has categorised Malaysia as one of the 30 countries under the critical zone--which means if that deforestation is not controlled it could lead to rapid depletion of our forest reserves.

The research undertaken by the Washington-based World Resource Institute (WRI), in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, noted that \$19.2 billion is needed over a period of five years (1987-1991) to check the alarming deforestation worldwide.

The report said Malaysia need at least \$178 million during the period for forest management and conservation of tropical forest ecosystem programme.

Primary Industries Minister Datuk Leong Khee Seong, said the government will restrict felling to only 149,000 hectares of forest in Peninsula from next year.

The reafforestation policy also stipulates that the annual felling rate must be offset by the annual rate of rehabilitation to enable Malaysia to remain as a net exporter in years to come.

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MALAYSIA

STRATEGY TO STEM ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS OUTLINED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Dec 85 p 1, 2

[Article by S. Jayakrishnan]

[Text] The Government hopes to stem the influx of illegal Indonesian immigrants by "attacking" the problem on the high seas.

Marine police and the Task Force VII have been given orders to stop and turn back Indonesian boats ferrying illegal immigrants in Malaysian territorial waters.

Deputy Home Affairs Minister Datuk Radzi Sheikh Ahmad said the move was to complement the action taken by police and Immigration Department to arrest and deport illegals already in the country.

"We hope that this two-prong strategy will stop the tide of illegal immigrants," he said.

Serious threat

The Task Force VII which has been given an expanded role to combat the problem will also increase patrols in the Straits of Malacca to stop illegal Indonesian immigrants from entering the country.

The Task Force which was specifically set up to control the influx of Vietnamese illegal immigrants will, however, continue to patrol the South China Sea.

Datuk Radzi said Rela members staying along the coastal areas have been urged to report to the authorities if they know of any landings of illegal immigrants.

Datuk Radzi said the Government viewed the entry of illegal immigrants into the country as a serious threat to security and had given priority to combating the problem.

"We have therefore assigned the Task Force VII to stop the immigrants before they enter the country as our marine patrols have had numerous encounters with them on the high seas and coastal waters.

"With these measures we hope to be able to deal more effectively with the influx of immigrants into the country," Datuk Radzi said.

The Task Force has also been beefed up with seconded officers from the marine police, navy and Immigration Department to enable it to shoulder the added responsibility, said Datuk Radzi after opening the annual meeting of the Police Ex-Servicemen's Association here.

He identified the four States of Negri Sembilan, Selangor, Malacca and Johore as those which bore the brunt of the influx of illegal immigrants.

Datuk Radzi added that a total of 20,000 illegal immigrants, including nationals from Thailand, Bangladesh and Burma, had been deported so far this year.

"On our part we will not spare anyone who enters the country illegally regardless of nationality. All illegal immigrants will be deported immediately.

"We would also like the public to cooperate with the authorities in combating the menace by providing more information."

On the Malaysia-Indonesia Recruitment of Workers Pact which was signed in Medan on May 12 last year, Datuk Radzi said the agreement was to obtain labour for the plantation and construction sectors.

"So far a total of 1,000 workers have been brought in under the agreement under two-year contracts."

He said the agreement was only applicable to the construction and plantation sectors of the country as there was a labour shortage in these sectors and the Government was closely monitoring the situation.

"It is not an open-door policy to allow Indonesians to enter the country as they wished."

He added that the Indonesians would only be taken in when there was a shortage of labour.

Datuk Radzi also said that his Ministry was not aware of any syndicates involved in bringing illegal immigrants into the country.

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MALAYSIA

GOVERNMENT PROVIDES ASSURANCE ON LANGUAGE ISSUE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Dec 85 p 2

[Article by Lee Foo San]

[Text] Non-Malays have been assured that the Government has no intention to stop them using their mother tongue although it emphasises the use of Bahasa Malaysia as the national language.

This was stated by Agriculture Minister Anwar Ibrahim when closing the national-type Chinese and Tamil primary schools' Bahasa Malaysia elocution and writing competition finals for the Piala Perpaduan 1985 at the Town Hall last night.

He said there was no intention of discouraging the use of the languages of other races.

"Non-Malays should not worry because their mother tongue will not be affected by the implementation of Government policy which is aimed mainly at uniting the people besides encouraging them to use their mother tongue.

"I would like to remind the people not to get involved with certain groups or be trapped on the Bahasa Malaysia issue which is being made use of for the groups' own benefit.

"If we are trapped we will not be able to achieve solidarity."

Encik Anwar said every year there were groups of people who tried to raise the Bahasa Malaysia issue to deceive the people into believing that the Government was putting an end to the use of other languages. This, he said, was not true.

He said the situation had become worse because of speculation that the general election was around the corner.

Encik Anwar urged the people to work together to defend Government policy so that they could live in peace and harmony.

Teachers in national-type Chinese and Tamil primary schools should also explain the objectives of the policy to pupils.

He said the Government was proud of the interest taken by those who sacrificed their time to organise such competitions and to encourage the usage of Bahasa Malaysia.

Earlier, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Ling Liong Sik said the Government would try its best to be fair to all races in the country.

The Government, he said, took care of all national-type schools.

Datuk Dr Ling also urged non-Malays to improve and enrich their knowledge of Bahasa Malaysia.

Ho Chin Yee, 12, and Khor Niny, 11 both from the SRJK (Cina) Sun Sun of Penang, captured the top prizes in the elocution and written competitions respectively.

Second was Kow Pei Hoon, SRJK (China) San Min 1, Teluk Intan; Third, Lee Jun Yee, SRJK (Cina) Ave Maria Convent, Ipoh; fourth, Ong Su Keong, SRJK (Cina) Chung Hwa, Kota Baru, Kelantan and fifth, Sofia ak Tajan, SRB Chugn Hua, Sibu, Sarawak.

Second in the written competition was Bok Ru Chuan, SRJK (C) Ping Ming, Pengkalan Rama, Melaka; third, Wong Kian Soon, SRJK (C) Tsung Wah, Kuala Kangsar; fourth, Koong Soon Ling, SRJK (C) Keh Send, Bukit Baru, Melaka and fifth, Tan Hong Siang SRJK (C) Keat Wah (H), Alor Star.

Kedah won the team championship. Second was Penang and Malacca, third.

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MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

ASEAN MEETING ON COMMODITY PRICES--Malaysia is proposing an informal meeting among ASEAN countries to take a fresh look at the problem of declining prices of the commodities. The deputy prime minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, says Thailand has responded positively to the idea. Malaysia will be consulting other ASEAN members on the proposal, which will be held at ASEAN level first and, perhaps, be broadened later. The problem of commodity prices was among a range of topics covered when Datuk Musa paid a courtesy call on General Tun Prem Tinsulanon in Bangkok. The proposal calls for an informal meeting of ASEAN government officials, private sector representatives, and academicians to take a fresh look at the problems relating to commodity prices in view of the fact that certain formulae proposed within the context of UNCTAD and North-South dialogue may already be outdated. The commodities affected are rubber, palm oil, tin, rice, and sugar, produced by ASEAN countries. Datuk Musa has returned to Kuala Lumpur after attending the Malaysian-Thai General Border Committee meeting in Bangkok. He was sent off at the Royal Thai Air Force airport by the interior minister of Thailand, General Sitthi Chirarot. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Jan 86] /9604

REPORT ON FINANCIAL SCANDAL--The cabinet has decided to make public the final report of Bumiputera Malaysia Finance--BMF--committee of inquiry. The report will be tabled as a white paper in the coming parliamentary session in March. The cabinet had carefully studied the attorney general's views and agreed to make public the report. This was disclosed by the minister of information who is cabinet spokesman. He was speaking to newsmen after the weekly cabinet meeting today. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Jan 86] /9604

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NEW ZEALAND

AUCKLAND PAPER ANALYZES NEW ZEALAND PARTY DIRECTION

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Jan 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Move Towards a Stereotype?"]

[Text] When Mr Bob Jones launched the New Zealand Party he ignored almost every traditional political stereotype. The party's pre-election manifesto abounded with apparent political contradictions and contained at least something for everyone.

For the enigmatic party founder, such an unorthodox grouping of policies may not have required any intellectual somersaults but few people quite share such an approach. Throughout the 1984 election campaign, it was evident that many were attracted to the party for specific policies on which they were ferevent while ignoring those to which they were opposed.

The party hierarchy complained that the electorate had difficulty grasping the concept of free enterprise economics combined with a liberal social outlook, a blend that called for the abolition of the armed forces and a boost for education and the arts.

Although the disparate policies have been endorsed at successive party conferences, they remain an inherent weakness, leaving ideological disunity in the ranks, particularly in the absence of the unifying figure of Mr Jones.

A former party vice-president, Mr Earle Thompson, exposes such disparity when he rejects the party's radical defence policy--long one of its more obvious political contradictions. He may also be signalling the predicted drift of the party to a more conventional platform on the Right of the political spectrum.

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CSO: 4200/581

NEW ZEALAND

FOL, STATE UNIONS VIEW MERGED PROPOSAL

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 4 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by Ross Barrett]

[Text] The Federation of Labour may cease to exist within months.

And it seems to be working as hard as anyone for its demise.

The federation and the Combined State Unions are expected to merge into a single organisation to be known as the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions.

The proposal has been under discussion for about two years but it is now facing crunch time.

Individual unions, the FOL, the CSU and other groups will need to decide by the middle of the year whether to press ahead with the plan, or it may be abandoned.

In recent weeks it has received a number of setbacks from FOL unions.

The Seamen's Union, the Watersiders' Federation and the Allied Liquor Trades Union have all rejected the proposal.

The seamen have stated: "We will take some convincing that the dissolution of the FOL is in the interests of New Zealand workers."

But the FOL--with representatives of both the seamen's and the watersiders' unions on its national executive--is said to favour the idea.

It is understood to have prepared a circular supporting the Council of Trade Unions proposal for distribution to its affiliates and is anxious to discuss the idea with those unions opposed to it.

In Auckland two influential unions--the Northern Drivers' Union and the Northern Storepersons and Packers' Union--have apparently given overwhelming support.

And a New Zealand Council of Trade Unions interim regional committee has been in existence in Auckland since May.

The FOL is to hold a conference to make a final decision on the issue, although it has yet to decide whether to do that at its annual conference in Wellington in May or to set up a special conference.

Of the state unions, a number have said they will affiliate to the new organisation.

They include the Post Primary Teachers' Association, the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutes, and the Kindergarten Teachers' Association.

It is understood that the New Zealand Bank Officers' Union has also thrown its support behind the plan.

However, the two largest state unions--the Public Service Association and the Post Office Union--have yet to make their final decisions.

Once they have, momentum for other state groups to do so will quicken.

The chairman of the Combined State Unions and president of the PSA, Mr Colin Hicks, says the PSA will hold workplace meetings on the issue beginning next month.

The outcome of the discussions will be considered by the association's executive council at a special meeting in April.

"There is every indication that the idea is gaining some sort of popularity," Mr Hicks says.

"It is a very important time for unions to get their act together properly.

"In this day and age Governments, with all their resources, are becoming much more sophisticated. It is not possible to have a fragmented union movement competing in those circumstances.

"If National were to return to power, then the ride for the union movement may be a bumpy one. At those times one needs unity in the movement."

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CSO: 4200/581

NEW ZEALAND

DAILY VIEWS FOL, STATE UNIONS MERGER PROPOSAL

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Jan 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Life After the FOL"]

[Text] The marriage of public and private sector employees in one national organisation to supplant the Federation of Labour could be among the more significant developments of 1986. The courtship has been long and notably diffident but, for better or worse, the leadership of the FOL and the Public Service Association (which made the proposal as long ago as 1982) appear determined to coax their membership into the union this year.

That may do no more than formalise the close *de facto* association shared by the FOL and the Combined State Unions in Government lobbying and wage-policy negotiations for several years past. But it is more likely to extend well beyond that.

Proponents on both sides of the merger obviously envisage a new labour organisation with greater resources of expertise, money and muscle than they can currently mobilise. There are ominous portents for the economy there, not least because keen support for the idea has come from quarters where adherents of the Socialist Unity Party hold sway.

They may believe they can exert tactical leadership of a New Zealand Council of Trade Unions incorporating legions of white-collar public servants, bank officers and teachers. The lessons of past apathy may encourage that hope but, on balance, it seems unlikely.

Several teacher unions have already voted to join the proposed council but most others, including the crucial PSA and the National Union of Railwaymen, remain doubtful. The PSA leadership plans a vigorous attempt to sell the idea to its members next month.

If their reluctance is overcome the result, from the country's point of view, may be the best of all possibilities. A cajoled membership might retain sufficient vigilance within the new organisation to moderate its leadership and the country could see the FOL replaced by a clearer, better informed, more representative voice of labour.

There are grounds for hope that the proposed council of trade unions may be less hidebound in ideology than the FOL has been. It might accept the drive towards a healthy, market-responsive, trading economy instead of whistling in the wind for industry protection, uneconomic jobs and state enterprise.

It might use its better resources to ensure that workers participate, in more imaginative ways, in the gains of the free market. It might even explain to workers the difference between genuine improvement of living standards and inflationary wage-cost spirals. Now that would be progress.

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NEW ZEALAND

TRADE EFFORTS PROMISED ON MANY FRONTS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Jan 86 p 4

[Text] New Zealand this year plans a new dynamic trade thrust while battling to retain markets in Europe and making a clear case for fairer trade on a global front.

At home the Government will combine its efforts to promote a freer and more competitive economy with a new co-operative approach on overseas trade under a market development board.

Parliament is expected to pass legislation setting up the new board in March and already prospective members are working as a committee.

The Minister of Overseas Trade and Marketing, Mr Moore, said yesterday: "We are drawing together top business, marketing, exporting and union people to hone up export ideas and strategies to open up new markets.

"Already ideas are pouring into my office for the new board to investigate. They range from developing our recording industry to setting up a chain of New Zealand food shops overseas as other countries have done."

Last year New Zealand boosted its global export trade from \$8.5 billion to \$11.3 billion.

This year it faces critical negotiating challenges in retaining a \$234-million-a-year butter trade with the European Community and in achieving freer global trade under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Since 1973 the New Zealand butter quota to Britain has fallen from 165, 811 tonnes, to 81,000 tonnes.

Now New Zealand is fighting to retain its foothold. By August ministers of the European Community will be setting the New Zealand butter access level for 1987-88.

In September, Mr Moore expects to sit down with world trade ministers to work out an agenda for a new round of Gatt negotiations on global trade rules and moving into the area vital to New Zealand--agriculture.

"Between now and September, my aim is to get out priorities accepted," Mr Moore said yesterday.

New Zealand wants:

- Agricultural subsidies reduced and better access to markets.
- Better access for non-pastoral exports, including horticultural and manufacturing products.
- A strengthening of the Gatt rules so that decisions on trade disputes are obeyed.
- A close Gatt look into new trade areas such as tourism, banking and insurance--all fast-growing areas for this country.

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CSO: 4200/581

NEW ZEALAND

SHOWDOWN FOR GOVERNMENT, UNIONS FORESEEN

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Jan 86 p 2

[Text] Relations between the Labour Government and the trade union movement may this year be heading for their most severe test yet.

A senior trade union leader, Mr Bill Andersen, believes that will be the case.

And he says the showdown will come over the Government's recently released green paper on industrial relations.

Mr Andersen, the president of the Auckland Trades Council and a Federation of Labour executive member, believes the paper reflects a general assault being aimed at unions.

"It is also a reflection of the pressure the Government is under from employers.

"If they enforce the worst aspects of the paper, relations [between the Government and unions] will be exacerbated.

Pressure

"It will make it more difficult for the FOL to maintain the traditional support of unionists for Labour.

"On the other hand, if the employers' pressure is withstood, it will lead to a much more fruitful and effective harmony between unions and the Labour Party."

Mr Andersen says the worst possible outcome from a union viewpoint would be that the national award structure could be smashed and replaced by second tier awards.

"If that happens, it puts us into the jungle but with the boss as the tiger."

Strengths

Mr Andersen says the award system embraces many union strengths--it provides right of entry to workplaces, it gives rights of representation and establishes minimum wage rates.

"If the system is broken, it will set us back considerably--and I think that unless we develop a strong enough campaign it is a possibility that it will be broken.

"Plainly the employers do not want another wage round like the last one and so much will depend on our representations in the next nine months."

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CSO: 4200/581

NEW ZEALAND

PAPER VIEWS U.S. SUBMARINE VISIT TO FIJI

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 7 Jan 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Fiji Admits Nuclear Visitor"]

[Text] The Fiji Government seems to show lack of self-confidence by failing to announce a visit by a United States nuclear-attack submarine. The United States Embassy announced the visit late on Friday afternoon and the submarine arrived on Saturday morning.

By coincidence or not, the submarine arrived at the end of a week-long peace conference attended by 300 people from 28 countries. It can only be guess-work whether the Fiji Government said nothing to avoid giving the peace groups ammunition. It seems a far cry from President Reagan's remark in November 1984 praising Ratu Mara for a high degree of political courage in reopening Fiji's ports to American naval vessels. Now we see what almost like a visit by stealth.

Fiji is nonetheless some degrees in advance of New Zealand, which claims to want the Anzus alliance while dictating to the senior partner that its ships may not carry nuclear weapons if they come here. New Zealand has been brought to its present pass by years of chipping away at the American alliance by people who well understood what they were doing. Fiji can apparently still resist such people, but the circumstances of the submarine's visit to not suggest a Government assured of its position.

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CSO: 4200/581

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

WINGTI INTERVIEWED ON POLICIES, PLANS, HOPES

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST-COURIER in English 31 Dec 85 p 5

[Text]

PAIAS Wingti has been Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea for nearly six weeks. It has been a time of the most intensive political activity since Independence 10 years ago.

People overseas have been watching closely as he has moved swiftly to implement his promises to shake up the bureaucracy and tackle economic problems.

Recently Mr Wingti took part in a question and answer session with Australian journalist Mark Baker which was published in the Sydney Morning Herald and Melbourne Age newspapers. For the benefit of readers in Papua New Guinea, we reproduce it here.

Q uestion: After the first few weeks in office, the economy clearly is your priority. How do you assess the extent of the problems?

Mr Wingti: We're pretty well in control of the situation, in the sense that we have identified the problem areas in the economy. Over the past 10 years too much has been spent on administration, too much has been spent building up infrastructure without really any return in terms of employment for our people and in generating new revenue for the country. The decisions we are making now are ones which will produce results in four or five years' time.

What are the key changes?

Our priorities are economic growth, the creation of jobs, maximum participation in the economy by our people, and investment. We are looking at redirecting the total resources of our budget and manpower to achieving these objectives. Revenue in the past 10 years has gone down, our borrowings have gone up, our expenditure has been funded with borrowed money. So now we have to create new revenue so that the country can stand on its own two feet, or at least be able to proudly say

that 80 per cent of the money comes from internal revenue.

What are the main ways that you are going to do that?

We are looking at the agricultural sector. That's the most important priority the Government has given. Then minerals and energy, forestry, lands, trade and industry, tourism and aviation. Those are the key ministries where the Government will be placing emphasis by reallocating resources, the ones that can generate revenue for the country.

Where will you divert these resources from?

From other service departments. Every ministry will have to justify its existence to the Government, and justify what they are doing. We don't need more money. The money is there. It's a matter of reallocating.

How important is the privatisation program to all this?

It's going to be one of the most important things because it is

going to increase efficiency, it will rationalise a lot of the activity of our public service. Key people like the secretary for finance and the secretary for minerals and energy have had to be businessmen and public servants. All the time they have had to attend meetings because of our (Government) equity in forestry, in Air Niugini and so on. We want to stop that. The department heads and the ministers will now be able to concentrate on their important work in getting the country moving.

The plans to sell off Government enterprises should raise a lot of revenue.

It will be a lot of revenue. The total investment by the Government in the various enterprises and authorities is around K200 million. We will get back more than that through privatisation. But there are some things that we will not sell off in the interests of the state. Where you have a monopoly, like the Post and Telecommunication Commission, you could get a situation where private enterprise was dictating to the Government. We will only sell in situations where there is competition.

What about the extent of foreign borrowing? There have been serious warnings from groups like the IMF about the level of PNG's foreign debt and the way the burden of debt-servicing is growing.

We are concerned about that and we are going to get a team of people, bankers and others, to come and work out a program for our borrowing. Right now there is no sound planning. By some time next year we will get this team together to work out a long-term strategy.

Do you want to see a continuing special relationship with Australia as it has existed in the past, or do you feel Australia should be regarded as just another neighbor?

Our future really is with the Asian region, as is the future of Australia and New Zealand. That's where the economic growth is, that's where the population is. Australia is starting to move in that direction now. The new Government will be looking at becoming a member of ASEAN (the Association of the South-East Asian Nations).

Because of that, do you believe that the relationship with Australia is too close, that the economic dependence is too great?

Okay, we receive a lot of aid from Australia, but when you look at the trade situation, it's in their favor. They import not even 50 per cent of what we buy from Australia. It is too small when you look at the figures.

How can you change that?

I don't know. Maybe special considerations should be given to us in allowing our goods into Australia.

When will you visit Australia?

I have decided not to visit Australia at all for the next 18 months. I have decided not to visit any country. I will stay here until 1987 and I won't go out before the next elections. My priorities are at home. When I go out as Prime Minister I want it to be in a position of power. You don't want to go out when people can see through you, when your country's in a mess and there's no economic activity taking place, nothing exciting. You want to go out when you feel you are going with strength. We've got so many problems in this country that have to be cleaned up.

How do you see the future relationship with Indonesia?

It will be the same.

Are you concerned about Irian Jaya and the potential the border problems have to strain the relationship with Indonesia?

No, not really. Indonesia and PNG have a firm understanding about these things, a very firm understanding.

What can you do to encourage more foreign investment in PNG?

The rationalisation of the public service departments will make it easier. Previously, potential investors had to spend a lot of time going around different departments, wasting time. We

will make it more efficient and streamline the rules. One of the things we will look at will be selecting particular projects to attract foreign investors, maybe 21 projects that we can sell to investors as joint ventures or other forms of co-operation.

What about the general political situation. You have a six-month honeymoon during which the Opposition can't try to vote you out in Parliament. Do you expect a challenge from Mr Somare after that?

They could do that. But this Government is doing the right things for the long-term future of PNG and the people are behind us. Provided we continue to be decisive we will stay in power and we will win the elections in

1987. The Opposition has got big problems now. But if I sit back and worry about what might happen, nothing will get moving. So I'm ignoring it. The people are the important thing. They are the ones to make the judgement on my performance and the performance of the Government.

Public reaction

What is the public reaction so far?

Every weekend I am going out to the provinces. This weekend I will go to Madang. Everywhere people are saying they are relieved and they feel something is happening in the country. They feel that at last we are giving the people some hope, that they know where we are going. There is confidence. Maybe I am biased, but it's for the people to make their own assessments.

A lot of people question whether you are going to be able to hold together your five-party coalition, with so many different and volatile personalities.

I put together the Opposition in eight months before taking power. They were difficult times and now we are in power.

Don't you think it's sometimes more difficult once in power? People have their own ideas about how they want to do things.

We've got to respect and value people, including their differences. There are many people with abilities in my ministry and I rely on them. I trust them and rely on them not to let me down.

Looking forward to the elections, what are your plans for building up your party, the People's Democratic Movement?

We've already got pretty good support. But whoever comes back in 1987, it won't be one party that forms the Government. It will be a coalition, and if this same team comes back it would be good for the country. We are all making a contribution.

So you are not concerned about expanding your own party?

I am interested, but I've got to think about our family now. There are many parties and all the people leading them are good people that the country needs, people like Sir Julius Chan, Mr Iambakey Okuk, Mr Paul Torato, Mr Galeva Kwarara and more. The nation needs the talents of them all.

/12828
CSO: 4200/554

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

MINING SEEN CREATING RACIAL TENSIONS

Port Moresby PAPUA NEW GUINEA POST-COURIER in English 3 Jan 86 p 8

[Text] Mines in the country have been described as creating "mini Rhodesias and South Africas."

Melanesian Alliance deputy chairman, Mr Bernard Narokobi, said the mines--especially OK Tedi--was encouraging social disparity with the kind of working conditions it offered.

He said after a recent visit to the mine that there were huge disparities between the working conditions of Papua New Guineans and expatriate employees, and between the mine workers and Government workers.

As a result there was social conflict and ill-feeling among the people living and working in and around the mine.

Mr Narokobi said the mine was having a serious environmental and cultural impact on the people from the mine area and urged the Minerals and Energy Minister, Mr Kaputin, to visit the area and assess the situation.

He said Mr Kaputin should speak to both the company, its workers and the local people to get a fair picture of what was happening.

The local people had told him their lives were restricted because their rivers, forests and vegetables were polluted.

They were in fear of contacting dangerous chemicals.

"I urge Mr Kaputin to visit the mine and talk to the people before he formulates policies and reassure foreign companies of their future in this country.

"We know for instance that the gold mine in Wau and Bulolo have done nothing to improve the lives of the Morobe people in the last 50 years.

"It is wrong to see mining as the backbone of this country.

"At best mining is a necessary evil and we have to be careful how we develop further mines.

"The time has come for a stop until we develop our own technical people so that we can own and develop the mines--because we are the ones who will suffer the consequences."

PNG would be left with ghost towns and disruption of social and cultural values if foreigners developed and left with all the minerals, Mr Narokobi said.

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PHILIPPINES

CARDINAL VIDAL PREDICTS PEACEFUL ELECTIONS IN CEBU

HK171023 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Jan 86 p 5

[By Deedee M. Siytangco]

[Text] The election on 7 February will be generally peaceful in Cebu, Ricardo Cardinal Vidal of that diocese predicted.

Cardinal Vidal who is in Manila for church business (he is now the president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines) said Cebuanos are trying to cooperate with one another to make the voting and the counting peaceful and clean.

He added that the atmosphere was "charged" but the citizens appeared to realize the importance of the elections and they themselves would work to assure that there would be no violence or fraud.

Vidal has also cautioned his flock that the elections should not be regarded as an end in itself.

"The election is a democratic instrument for use in determining the future of the country," Vidal said in an interview with the BULLETIN TODAY at the residence of banker Danny Dolor after a mass for the late diva, Conching Rosal. "It is up to the people to use this instrument in their prayerfully discerned decision."

Vidal wrote a pastoral letter to his flock (one million voters are registered in Cebu) on the elections. It was first read last Sunday and will be read again this Sunday and on 2 February.

"The electoral act is a sacred right and duty," Vidal said, "and it must be exercised in accordance with the dictates of a well-formed conscience."

He urged the faithful to respect the sacredness of the ballot, resist the temptation to sell or buy votes, and asked them to resist all forms of deceit, black propaganda, and pressures. He declared 24 January, Friday, as a diocesan day of prayer and fasting.

Pledges to the patron of Cebu, the Sto. Nino, to help keep the elections clean and honest are being distributed for the Cebuanos.

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CSO: 4200/577

PHILIPPINES

BAYAN STEPS UP BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

OW171429 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Manila, 17 Jan (KYODO)--The biggest non-parliamentary Philippine opposition alliance announced Friday the holding of a series of demonstrations and protest actions starting next week as part of its campaign to convince voters to boycott the 7 February snap presidential elections called by President Ferdinand Marcos.

Lean Alejandro, secretary general of Bayan, however, told KYODO the federation's boycott campaign will not affect the outcome of the 7 February political contest between President Ferdinand Marcos and opposition standard bearer Mrs. Corazon "Cory" Aquino. "Certain circumstances point to a pre-arranged Marcos victory which Bayan or the opposition cannot affect...because the dominant political force in the Philippines is still the dictatorship," Alejandro said.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan--New Patriotic Federation), a leftist grouping of more than 1,000 organizations, had officially announced its boycott decision last week after it had "exhausted all means to ensure, at the very least, a meaningful electoral campaign."

Bayan's decision not to support the opposition ticket of Mrs. Aquino and running mate Salvador "Doy" Laurel came after the failure of the opposition party, the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) to adopt or incorporate into its platform Bayan's 15-point program of government.

The proposed program included, among other things, the immediate abrogation of the military bases agreement between the United States and the Philippines which expires in 1991.

Bayan, however, plans to field its members on 7 February to monitor "fraud and terrorism committed by the regime."

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CSO: 4200/577

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST EXAMINES PROVINCIAL KBL LEADERSHIP RIFT

HK170716 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 16 Jan 86 pp 6, 11

[From the column by Jesus Bigornia: "Pangasinan KBL Leaders in Bitter Rift"]

[Text] A tumultuous hero's welcome awaits President Marcos in Pangasinan as he stumps through that vote-rich province today. But behind the smiles and cheers lurks a bitter intramural struggle for power and privilege he must quell soonest if he expects his "Solid North" to remain intact. For, while the acknowledged political kingpins of Pangasinan--Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado Estrella and Gov. Aguedo Agbayani--may be tangoing in public, their respective followers have drawn daggers behind their backs ready to slash at counterparts in the other faction of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, [KBL] to the prejudice of the president's bid for a fresh mandate from the people.

Instead of bringing peace and harmony to a rift-ridden KBL Pangasinan chapter, a recent Malacanang decision designating Gov. Agbayani party provincial chairman has aggravated a long-standing feud between the two leaders. Previously, Minister Estrella, as provincial chairman, had purged some 20 mayors suspected of sabotaging his candidacy for a Batasan seat in the last parliamentary elections, replacing them in the party organization with his own men. Upon assumption of the provincial chairmanship, Gov. Agbayani promptly reinstated the mayors as local party chairmen. Not only did Mr Estrella's henchmen suffer serious loss of face; they also were divested of the privilege of distributing party funds and the power to nominate party inspectors.

While both factions may be working for the victory of the Marcos-Tolentino ticket, it is also certain that the party leaders of both factions are more interested in promoting their own factional clout in preparation for the May local elections. And the undeclared war may be expected to persist despite efforts of the national leaders to patch up matters. For, if they observe the two political kingpins, it will be noted that while they shake each other's hand in public, Minister Estrella and Gov. Agbayani do not look into the other's eyes, let alone speak to each other.

Malacanang may never find in a year of searching a more prolific source of issues with which to vex, pester, annoy, and otherwise harass the opposition's candidate for president, Mrs Corazon "Cory" Aquino, than in the person of her brother-in-law, businessman Agapito "Butz" Aquino. Strategists of the

Kilusang Bagong Lipunan party could not have forgotten how Mr Aquino, with his premature announcement, virtually torpedoed initial attempts to form the Aquino-Laurel slate. For conspiring with Nur Misuari to deliver Southern Philippines to the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front, Mr Aquino has given President Marcos more ammunition.

Of course, as suggested, the likes of "Butch" Aquino have no business dabbling in foreign policy. It is unthinkable that the fate of the nation should be entrusted to a man whose only qualification as a public leader is that he was the brother of the late opposition leader Benigno Aquino Jr., and model in a television spiel for a cough syrup. To the credit of the opposition candidate, she has denied giving her brother-in-law authority to negotiate with the secessionist rebels.

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CSO: 4200/577

PHILIPPINES

MAYOR REPORTS COUNTERINSURGENCY GAINS IN COTABATO VALLEY

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 7 Dec 85 pp 1, 14

[Text] President Marcos has ordered a revamp of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, taking effect immediately upon the return of Gen. Fabian C. Ver as AFP chief of staff, to improve the military capability in fighting Communist subversion and the New People's Army rebellion.

General Ver assessed the insurgency in the country as "serious" that the expertise of older and mature generals is needed by the military establishment," reported Malaya about the AFP revamp in its December 5 issue.

However whatever "seriousness" the insurgency problem nationwide has may not be true in the Arakan Valley. Mayor Mario Calayco of President Roxas, Cotabato said the government "is slowly but surely gaining" against subversion there, reported Butch G. Galicia of the Philippine News Agency.

Assessment

Calayco, Galicia said, made the assessment after the more than 600 members of the subversive mass base in his municipality had renewed their oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines last November 25.

Calayco said that the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the NPA had been building up their forces in Arakan Valley since 1974. Composed of the municipalities of Magpet, Antipas, President Roxas and Matalam, Arakan Valley is geographically strategic for infiltration from Bukidnon and Davao City.

The 600 mass-base returnees came from seven barangays of President Roxas, six of which are heavily infiltrated: Sagkungan, Camarahan, Del Carmen, Lomonay, La Esperanza and Alegria. The seventh, Laboo, has just been infiltrated.

Citing the surrenderees, Calayco said the CPP/NPA have established "solid organizations" in these barangays and the rebels are well entrenched. Most of those who gave up were party branch members, team leaders of organizing groups and committees and barangays militia members. Many were NPA couriers, collectors, informers and members of the intelligence network.

Turnabout

According to Galicia, Calayco explained that the surrenderees left the subversive movement because of disenchantments. In early days the NPAs were kind, helpful and understanding. Those who came later were oppressive.

Still citing the accounts of the surrenderees, Calayco said that the people could not bear the forced taxation, P2 to P5 monthly, one-half to one ganta of rice monthly from tenant-farmers, and 20 per cent of the production.

Landowners are taxed from P50 to P200 per harvest according to area and are forced to give clothing, medicines and other supplies. Big landowners are taxed from P5,000 to P10,000 monthly, Calayco said. They are helpless.

Some of the surrenderees condemned the trial by "kangagroo court" and the execution that they had been made to witness. They also condemned the disappearance of those in the barangay suspected as government agents.

New Approach

Calayco, Galicia said, also attributed the return of the 600 to the folds of the law to new approach by the military and the civilian government. This was confirmed by Major Eduardo Santiago, commander of the 27th Infantry Battalion.

"We make them feel we understand their situation," Santiago said. "Then they are made to choose between democracy and the alternative the CPP/NPA had taught them."

The policy of tolerance, as described by Calayco, appeared effective. Two party members were captured in a raid. They pointed to their comrades in the barangay. The latter were called to a dialogue. Later, they came back with more members wanting to return to "normal life."

National Report

Reports, however, in the national papers and the radios indicate signs of growing insurgency to bear out the assessment of General Ver and to justify the order of President Marcos to revamp the military organization.

In the December 5 issue of Bulletin Today, President Marcos was reported to have told Bob Edwards of National Public Radio in the U.S. during an interview via the satellite that in the coming election, his "principal worry is the threat of force and violence from the Communists' New People's Army".

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

KYODO REPORTER ON NPA STRENGTH IN CORDILLERAS

OW150631 Tokyo KYODO in English 0610 GMT 15 Jan 86

[By Virgilio Galvez]

[Text] Cordillera, 15 Jan (KYODO)--"This is a safe place," our hosts said to dispel fears of journalists about possibly being caught in a crossfire during a raid or encounter between government soldiers and guerrillas of the New People's Army (NPA) in the village where they had stopped.

The NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has long made its presence felt in the area. "They (the guerrillas) usually visit the surrounding 'sitios' (sub-villages) in the course of their patrols," a villager said. "They come here occasionally. Sometimes they are requested by the village folk to take care of peace and order during weddings and other festivities."

The guerrillas have been fighting to overthrow the government of President Ferdinand Marcos since the NPA was established on 29 March 1969 in Tarlac Province in central Luzon from remnants of the old anti-Japanese Peoples Army called "Hukbalahap" which later became the People's Liberation Army or simply "Huk."

The guerrillas have been roaming the Gran Cordillera, or Big Little Cord, a towering mountain range in the central portion of the main island of Luzon in the northern Philippines, since 1970.

The Cordillera cuts across the provinces of Benguet, Ifugao, Mountain Province, Abra, and Kalinga-Aparyao, a vast reserve of rich mineral and forest resources. It is home to at least seven tribes of mountain dwellers known collectively as "igorot," who have carved their life out of the cool mountainsides and developed a terrace-based culture.

The natives in the village, a number of them still wearing bright colored hand woven cloth made into skirts for women or loincloths for men, live in thatched-roof houses nestled on top of a mountain and openly sing NPA songs.

This village could be one of the 2,500 out of 41,885 Philippine barangays (villages), which Defense Ministry has reported to be "influenced" by the insurgents.

The ministry said 4,659 others were "infiltrated," meaning the NPA can count on the support from at least 25 percent of the villagers there. Rebel liaison groups have also been established in 6,095 barangays.

A 27-year-old guerrilla commander, Ka Jimmy, said that the NPA, since its founding, has expanded considerably and now operates in 60 of the country's 73 provinces, including all of the provinces straddled by the Cordillera.

From an insignificant guerrilla force of 65 ill-equipped men, the NPA now claims to have 15,000 fully-armed regulars and another 15,000 part-time fighters. The government estimates the NPA has between 12,000 to 13,000 poorly-armed guerrillas.

In the northern part of Luzon, the NPA can form battalion-size formations in Kalinga, Cagayan and Abra provinces, the commander said.

The NPA commander described the hard life of the guerrillas, speaking of going hungry and of long, tortuous hikes in the Cordillera. "We walk at night; sometimes you encounter the enemy or even get ambushed. We have to be mobile even during heavy rains--especially when the enemy is around."

The guerrillas may have been successful in tying down large numbers of government troops in disparate regions throughout the Philippine archipelago, but there are doubts about their capability to sustain a drawn-out battle against the 150,000-strong Philippine Armed Forces.

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile recently said that the growing insurgent army would need more logistical support than it was presently getting from local sources.

Ka Jimmy, however, expressed confidence. "In our revolution, we don't depend on outside help. Arms will be secured mainly from our own efforts within the country. While many socialist countries want to help, we must determine their political line first. If their line differs with ours, then it is difficult."

When asked when he expects the NPA's objectives to be eventually achieved, Ka Jimmy replied: "It's really difficult to say. Only the people can determine that. It is adventurism to say to the people that in such and such a time we will achieve victory, especially if the revolutionary forces are not prepared for this."

It was time to take pictures. The villagers gamely posed for the cameras. They laughed as a little boy fumbled with Ka Jimmy's ammunition belt and M-16 rifle. It was indeed a safe place. Until when, nobody could really say.

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CSO: 4200/577

PHILIPPINES

PRIEST ON BAYAN AIMS, 'HARSH' MARCOS ECONOMIC MEASURES

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 14 Dec 85 pp 4, 11

["Political Front" Column by Elisco R. Mercado, OMI: "Bayan and the snap election"]

[Text] The Bagong Alyansa ng Bayan or simply Bayan is a federation of militant political movements and organizations nationwide seeking genuine transformation in Philippine society today. The unity which Bayan seeks is based on four basic principles: National Democracy, National Freedom and Sovereignty, People's Welfare and Economic Advancement, and National Unity.

These are what Bayan adheres to and pledges to accomplish in its struggle to build a society that is free, democratic, humane, just and progressive. In short, Bayan works for a society that is fitting for the succeeding generations.

Today, as the country is confronted with nearly a total economic and political collapse, Mr. Marcos dangles over the heads of more than 50 million Filipinos the option of snap elections. There are several devious reasons for Mr. Marcos to call snap elections in February 1986. Surely one of them is to distract the people's attention from the new harsh economic measures which he, in compliance with IMF wishes, will implement in early 1986. Among others, these measures are: 1) Higher Taxes, 2) Tariff and Import Liberalization, and 3) Devaluation.

For participation in the February snap elections, Bayan has put forward three essential demands. These are: 1) Real and Immediate resignation of Mr. Marcos thus creating permanent vacancy in the Presidency that would warrant a genuine presidential election without any constitutional doubt as opposed to his now infamous 'post-dated' resignation;

2) Genuine Electoral Reforms which call for a revamp of the Comelec to ensure a fair and impartial election, and to confine to headquarters all military forces to avoid any kind of harrassment and/or coercion during the duration of electoral campaigns and the actual election.

3) Democratic reforms such as abolition of PDA, restoration of the Filipinos' Constitutional Rights, and the release of all Political Prisoners that will ensure genuine reconciliation.

But regardless of whether the decision is to boycott or participate in the February snap election, Bayan calls on all cause oriented groups and movements, all political parties, as well as all concerned Filipinos to continue to project the democratic and legitimate economic and political demands of the Filipino people.

As previously stated in this column, elections and plebiscites under the Marcos regime had all become entertaining zarzuelas. As zarzuelas, they usually captivate the hearts and minds of Filipinos who are ordinarily afflicted with election fever. As such, it distracts the people's attention from miseries and suffering of day to day life-survival.

In this light, Bayan has launched a campaign to project the root causes of the people's sufferings lest they be relegated into the background in the height of the election fever. Bayan calls the attention of all Filipinos to PD's 1991 and 1994 recently issued by Mr. Marcos. Already these two onerous decrees which raise the taxes on sales, on commodities previously subjected only to specific taxes, and on earnings from bank deposits, are forgotten due to the discussions and controversies surrounding the snap elections.

PD 1991 which amended the sales tax provisions of the national internal revenue code is particularly oppressive, because it hits the low-income groups the hardest. Thanks to Mr. Marcos for the added burden and sufferings of the Filipino people. PD 1991 increases by 100% the sales taxes on essential commodities while leaving the rate for luxury items untouched.

It matters little to Mr. Marcos and his cronies if the Filipino people will now pay more for essential goods such as meat, vegetables, milk and dairy products, bread and wheat, medicine, laundry soap and detergents, writing pads, notebooks, pens, and pencils. Moreover, a new tax, the 3% tax on second sales, has taken effect, and traders and grocers have no choice but pass it on to hapless Filipino consumers.

Bayan cites PD 1991 and 1994 as examples of how the present regime sidetracks people's attention. Election fever can truly cause hallucination. And snap election can easily serve as morphia.

While it is true that snap elections offer new diversion for people to enjoy, they, nevertheless, must not lose sight of the root causes of the problems that confront the nation. Since the show must go on, the Filipino people must continue to hold the U.S.-Marcos 20-year regime responsible for the still worsening economic and political crisis in the country today.

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

DURANO: MARCOS LEGALIZES DANAQ GUN INDUSTRY

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 28 Dec 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] President Marcos has legalized the gunmaking industry in the country, according to member of Parliament Ramonito Durano III.

The KBL, MP said the President signed an executive order before Christmas Day making Danao City, Cebu as the pilot area in the legalized gunmaking trade.

Durano, who hails from Danao where 5,000 gunshops abound, said the presidential order strengthens some provisions of presidential decree 1866 penalizing legal possession and manufacture of firearms and ammunition.

Durano said the 5,000 gunmakers in Danao have until Feb. 15 next year to register their shops as cooperatives, corporations or single proprietorships.

Each factory must put up a bond of 5,000 pesos before registering with the office of the mayor, he said.

He said Danao expects to earn five million pesos a year in revenues with the legalization of the gunmaking trade.

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

TEN PERCENT NEED ASSISTANCE WITH DAILY NEEDS

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS 7 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] Filipinos who need direct assistance to make it on the daily basis are conservatively estimated at 10 per cent of the 54 million national population.

Metro Manila-based leaders of private sector mercy organizations cite as basis a report from the Ministry of Social Services and Development that it assisted 5.1 million citizens nationwide in its 1983 operations (figures for 1984 not yet available).

The leaders stressed that those helped by the government welfare agency did not include needy citizens extended succor by counterpart agencies from the religious and civic sectors.

Also referred to as added basis for the estimate is a finding of a private countrywide opinion survey that 75 percent of Filipinos today consider themselves as poor.

The leaders claimed that number of the "poorest of the poor" in the country continues to increase due to effects of the ongoing national economic crisis which, among others, has rendered more people jobless and caused prices of essentials to go beyond reach of the low-income.

In the report on its 1983 operations, the social services ministry divided the 5.1 million citizens it assisted into five groups: families and other needy adults; children; jobless and out-of-school youth; disabled and special groups, and the distressed and displaced.

The ministry said 4 million of those extended assistance were "new clients" while the remainder "old" or people given a helping hand in the previous year.

Of those helped by the ministry, the most numerous at 2.5 million were described as distressed/displaced persons.

Mindanao residents compromised majority of the distressed/displaced at 1.2 million to underscore continued unsettled conditions in that southernmost part of the country.

Count of distressed/displaced persons in Luzon and Visayas regions as provided by the ministry: Eastern Visays, 440,689; South Tagalog 223,134; Metro Manila, 132,304; Bicol, 101,406; Cagayan Valley, 78,210; Ilocos, 74,304; Central Visayas, 73,118, and Western Visayas, 72,504.

The ministry reported that second largest group it assisted were children who counted at 904,654 with 504,5156 listed as new clients and 400,080 as old, to provide an idea on number of nutritionally at risk children in the nation today.

Bicol was the region with the most number of children assisted at 126,591, followed by Western Visayas with 115,882, and Western Mindanao at third with 90,019, the ministry said.

In the case of jobless family heads and other needy adults, those helped by the ministry counted at 957,598; youths, 565,883, and disabled and other special groups, 158,143.

The ministry said the assistance to needy citizens was extended through outreach groups or agencies set up by the government at the community level and that the help given were not outright doles but included measures that would enable the needy to get back on their feet again.

It explained that government welfare services are oriented at the upliftment and rehabilitation of the socially and economically disadvantaged citizens.

The ministry indirectly confirmed that number of citizens who need assistance is rising by pointing out that in 1983 operations planned to assist 4,199,333 citizens but that those given help counted at 5,010,131 or an excess of 21 per cent.

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

COTABATO PAPER HITS 'DECEPTION' IN INFLATION FIGURES

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in Englisha 14 Dec 85 p 4

[Commentary: "Statistical deception"]

[Text] Inflation rate for the month of November was 6.89 per cent. Prime Minister Cesar Virata, concurrently finance minister, predicted a lower figure as 1985 ends.

In June, inflation rate was about 12 per cent; in October, 10.74 percent; 13 months ago, in October 1984, it was 64 percent - the peak of inflation triggered by the crisis following the assassination of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino on August 21, 1983.

Virata attributed this dramatic fall to the "implementation of fiscal and monetary reforms by the government." While he did not specify, one of such reforms must be the strict control of money in circulation.

This is a good indication that prices are being stabilized at their present rates. The increase, as prices always tend to increase, have been slowed down to the normal rates.

But this should not be interpreted as an indicator that the life of the people, or the economy in general, is as good as that in the first half of 1983 - a condition which was worse compared to that in 1972. The series of devaluation which triggered galloping inflations started in June, 1983.

Our economic indicator directly affecting the life of the people is real wage or what wage or salary can buy in terms of prime commodities. Certainly, this has remained stagnant since 1983 while prices have been increasing by leaps and bounds.

This means that with the 64 per cent inflation of October 1984, real wage plummeted to rock bottom since there was no corresponding increase in the minimum wage. Life of the common Filipinos was much more difficult than in 1983.

But prices did not go down; only the rate of increase was slowed down to 6.89 percent by last month. Since October 1984, the prices have been increasing, not decreasing; the lowest rate of increase was last month.

It means, in reality, the present prices is at the level of October 1984 plus the increases since then. And the minimum wage has not increased. Consequently, real wage is lower than it was in October 1984. Anyone can testify that he or she can buy much less now than in 1984 or earlier.

To tell the country that life is getting better because inflation rate has been brought down to 6.89 per cent or lower is a statistical deception. Statistics does not lie; but neither does it tell the whole truth. The lowering of inflation rate must be seen in relation to the rising of real wage to be most meaningful.

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

RUC GENERAL: MILITARY BLUNTING REGION 12 THREAT

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS 14 Dec 85 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army, still pose a threat to national security but their activities have been contained by the government in its counter-insurgency drive.

Assessing the national and regional insurgency problem, Regional Unified Command 12 chief Brig. Gen. Cesar Tapia said "things are better in Region 12 compared to Regions 9, 10 and 11."

Reacting to adverse publicity about Southern Philippines, Tapia described the situation as "a matter of reputation" and the civil sector should instead promote its image in order to attract more investors so Mindanao may improve its economy.

The military, he said, has repulsed enemy strongholds in many parts of the country including Davao where communist movement has escalated. He disclosed that the level of CPP activity in Iligan City has gone down.

The military offensive and pressures in Luzon, he pointed out, drove off the enemy toward Mindanao. Forty-four CPP/NAP fronts have been established in the country and many are in Mindanao, Tapia revealed.

Communist movement in Region 12 are felt on geographical boundaries as he mentioned Cotabato Province, some municipalities near the boundary of Davao, three barangays in Sultan Kudarat Province, and Lanao del Norte bounded by Zamboanga.

Complicating the insurgency problem in Region 12 is the Muslim rebel movement under three factions: the Moro National Liberation Front, Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Reformist Group.

The secessionist movement in the south, however, is under control as these factions continue to observe the ceasefire agreement except for some "lost commands" which are still active in certain areas. Tapia said these are the units uncontrolled and unsupervised by their respective field commanders.

Of the two rebel movements, the commanding general said the Muslim groups have more combat capabilities but "there is more to fear from the CPP because of the nature of their movement as it is nationally organized and is vehement on overthrowing the legitimate governments by all kinds of violent means."

He brushed off the merger plan of the Muslim liberation fronts and the CPP/NPA due to conflicting ideologies. He disclosed that his contacts or "friends" at The MNLF and other factions indicated no merging formula between the two movements to solidify their causes.

He said their presence in the fields is "mere toleration" but not an indication of cooperation between the two in fomenting dissension against the government.

Tapia also branded as "exaggerated" the pronouncement of the US State Department that the insurgents are capable of overthrowing the government within three years and harassing it particularly during this coming snap poll.

The movement, he said, can not be immediately capable of toppling down the system in so short a span of operation and considering its organization has been weakened. The government can crush it outright but has preferred reconciliation to achieve peace.

CPP Move on Election

Asked on the stand or position of the CPP on the February 7 presidential snap election, Tapia said the local communists do not believe on political exercises as solutions to their causes.

He told the panel of Focus interrogators over CTV 12 that the NPA will likely resort to harassments in order to disrupt the election process and discredit the government but he said the military is ready always to prevent violence.

He said the military will abide by the orders of the Commission on Elections in the coming snap poll to assure the electorate of nonpartisanship. "If so ordered, we will be confined in camp," the RUC chief said.

CPP in City?

Tapia also confirmed reports that communist elements from General Santos City (Dadiangas) have visited Cotabato City purposely to recruit new members and conduct ideology teach-ins. These activities were reported by local leaders to the authorities. These, however, were not yet considered a threat.

He cited that information materials had been distributed to some students in the Notre Dame University tapped as their contacts. Subversive writings such as "Mabuhay ang NPA", were seen on concrete walls of lots and buildings, including schools, in the city.

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CSO: 4200/599

PHILIPPINES

DAVAO BOOBYTRAP KILLS MARINES, SUSPECT EXECUTED

CCP Propaganda Streamer Dismantled

Davao City PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM in English 18 Dec 85 pp 1, 6

[Article by Dodog Solis and Gerry Tan]

[Text] Three soliders of the Philippine Marines were killed after a grenade exploded before their faces after they pulled down from an electrical post a subversive streamer with red colored letters calling for: "ibagsak ang military" in Mandug district at the housing project of the Davao Development Foundation (DDF) in Davao City last Monday at around 6:35 p.m.

Killed on the spot was Marine private Fernando Macanas, Jr., 20, single and a native of La Union. The two other Marine troopers who died minutes later at the Davao Medical Center were private Danilo B. Mendoza, 20, single of Bataan province, and private Domingo Villegas, 19, single of Pangasinan.

The trio were assigned to the Marine detachment in Mandug district, known as the lair of the dissidents of the New People's Army and also the former operational jurisdiction of the dreaded "Kapitan Ignno" who left a trail of blood in the same place.

The three Marines who were then under the leadership of Sgt. Mitra, who was also critically injured by grenade sharpnels during the explosion, were dismantling streamers made of sacks calling for the dismantling of the military regime.

It was during the pulling down of the second streamer when a grenade exploded before the unwary Marines. The string of the second streamer was allegedly tied to the pin of a grenade and when the Marines pulled the streamers, the grenade naturally exploded after its pin was taken off.

The explosion occurred in an isolated place near the creek of phase II of the DDF subdivision.

The following day after the tragedy, an NPA suspect was allegedly picked by Marine troopers in the phase I area of the same subdivision at about 8:00 a.m.

The suspect, Jaime Bitor, 22, single was cooking rice for the family's breakfast when the Marines asked his mother, Mrs. Remedios Bitor, 48, for permission to bring his son to headquarters.

Mrs. Bitor, fearing for the life of his son, took her slippers in their house to be able to join his son. However, Mrs. Bitor said that even before she could turn her back, her son was already riddled with bullets at the face from an Armalite rifle right at their house's compound.

The suspected NPA who works as a laborer at the Prime Woods logging firm in Davao Oriental, died on the spot with his face badly battered with bullets.

His body was readily brought to the Barangay hall of Mandug apparently for every one to witness. The Marines who bodily dragged the victim to the barangay hall were allegedly led by one whose tag bears the name S/Sgt. Vallesti.

Also in the same day, a dead body at Sobrecary Vinzon street in Barrio Obrero riddled with bullets from an M-16 rifle at about 60 a.m.

The body is still unidentified. He is reportedly about 24 years old and was wearing long hair and blue denim pants.

His body was believed dumped at Barrio Obrero after he was picked up somewhere.

Marine Role in Execution Questioned

Davao City MINDANAO TIMES in English 21-28 Dec 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Jun Galvinex]

[Text] Mandug residents assailed the Communist Party of the Philippines for endangering their lives by resorting to booby traps and dirty tactics. A banana plantation worker who request anonymity claimed that "he and his children could have been the victims of the grenade laid out as a booby trap in a streamer had the Marines not took the risk of clearing said streamer."

The residents called on their neighborhood safety groups "not to be intimidated by such tactics and instead double their efforts in immediately clearing streamers of hate and anger in the barangay."

They are of the opinion, however, that immediate investigation must be conducted on the alleged execution of 22-year-old Jaime Bitor by a certain Marine Staff Sergeant Vallesti.

Reliable sources told this reporter that "there is more than that meets the eye" in the Bitor slaying considering eyewitness accounts that the Marines involved were in attires not exactly similar to the uniforms of the Marines and that Bitor is said to be known in the neighborhood as a not-too-distant relative of a military officer.

PHILIPPINES

COCONUT EXPORTS DROP NEARLY 4 PERCENT

HK170845 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 16 Jan 86 p 3

["Economic Indicator" column: "Coconut Exports Drop 3.94 Percent"]

[Text] Coconut exports during the period January-October last year amounted to P14.36 million, representing a 3.94 percent drop from the P14.95 million registered for the same period in 1984 figures taken from the National Census and Statistics Office (NCSO) showed.

The decline in export earnings was mainly attributed to the drop in the prices of coconut products in the world market during the year.

Shipments were made to 12 countries last year as compared to only nine in 1984. The bulk or 74.56 percent of the total was purchased by the Republic of China (Taiwan) for P10.71 million. This, however, represented a slight 3.45 percent drop from the previous year's P11.09 million. Other markets which imported coconut products included Saudi Arabia which purchased fresh, matured coconuts amounting to P1.40 million, 87.87 percent higher than P740,000 in 1984; Japan bought P1.38 million; United States, P210,000; Hong Kong, P160,000; Kuwait, P130,000; Arabia Peninsula States, P120,000, and Canada, P11,000.

Coconut Exports #

January-October 1984 and 1985
(value in pesos)

| Country | 1985 | 1984 | Percentage change |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Canada | 11,534 | 21,463 | (46.26) |
| United States | 205,463 | 190,326 | 7.95 |
| Netherlands | 74,468 | -- | -- |
| Kuwait | 129,945 | 315,754 | (58.85) |
| Saudi Arabia | 1,395,394 | 742,747 | 87.87 |
| Arabia Peninsula States, n.e.s. | 123,026 | 419,014 | (70.64) |
| China (Mainland) | 23,283 | -- | -- |
| Hong Kong | 159,636 | 338,513 | (52.84) |
| Republic of China (Taiwan) | 10,709,602 | 11,092,230 | (3.45) |
| Japan | 1,383,595 | 1,808,760 | (23.51) |
| Okinawa | 922 | -- | -- |
| Hawaii | 147,488 | -- | -- |
| Bahrain | -- | 24,319 | -- |
| Total | 14,364,356 | 14,953,126 | (3.94) |

Fresh, matured coconuts

Source: National Census and Statistics Office

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CSO: 4200/577

PHILIPPINES

81 FINISH SHARI'AH TRAINING IN COTABATO

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS 14 Dec 85 pp 2, 12

[Text] Eighty-one participants finished this year's Philippine Shari'ah institute held at the training hall of the Cotabato City Polytechnic College from October 26 to last Saturday, December 7. They received their certificates also last Saturday. This was announced by Acting Director Mustapha A. Sambolawan of the Bureau of Muslim Affairs of the Office of Muslim Affairs and Cultural Communities.

"The 43-day intensive training gave the participants in-depth insights into the wide range of Shari'ah law." Sambolawan said. He explained that Shari'ah law embraces all of man's life here and hereafter.

Citing lecturers, Sambolawan said that Shari'ah law is holy since its basic sources are the revelation of Allah as contained in the Holy Qur'an. Other sources are the Hadith of Prophet Muhammad, Ijima or Consensus of the jurists, and Qiyas of Analogy.

The lecture-discussions during the 43-day training centered on four subject areas: (1) Introduction to Shari'ah Law and Jurisprudence; (2) Persons, Family Relations and Property; (3) Inheritance, Wills and Successions (Faraid); and (4) Legal Procedure and Evidence (Ija-at-al Mahakim al Shari'ah.)

These subject areas are embodied in Presidential Decree No. 1083, otherwise known as the Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines. Excluded from the Code are the criminal law aspects of Islamic law and jurisprudence as understood in its strict sense, Sambolawan explained.

Lecturers were: Atty. Michael O. Mastuea and Atty. Musib M. Buat, who are both members of the commission that codified the Muslim laws (Mastura was the project director and Buat was the assistant). Judge Corocoy D. Moson of the 5th Shari'ah District Court; Judge Abdulbayan E. Ibrahim of Maganoy Shari'ah Circuit Court; and two Shari'ah graduates from AL-Azhar Universitiey in Cairo, Egypt: Sheikh Ali Abdulazis Naga, director of the Ma'had Kutawato Al-Islamie and Sheikh Abdulbasit Bansil.

Sambolawan said that some of the participants will take the special Shari'ah bar examinations to be given by the Supreme Court early next year. Some of the participants, he explained may not be able to take the examination because of the limitations the Court may set.

Training in other centers is still going on.

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CSO: 4200/559

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

SCHOLARSHIP FOR REBEL RETURNEES--Two government offices are now working out a system to carry out a scholarship program for rebel returnees. A recently issued presidential letter of instruction contained explicit provisions on the scholarship. As a result, the education and defense ministries are now coordinating to determine rebel returnees who can qualify for the scholarship. The scholarship covers four years of study either in high school or in college. The grantee is encouraged to join the granted government school. [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 18 Jan 86] /8309

ISLAMIC PARTY RAPS MNLF-AQUINO DEAL--The Bangsa Moro Islamic Party has warned the opposition against making any deals with MNLF leader Nur Misuari. A party official, (Sadowsi Abas), reaffirmed the commitment of his group to abide by the 1976 Tripoli Agreement, which provides for autonomy for Mindanao Muslim areas. (Abas) deplored the recent meeting between Misuari and oppositionist Butz Aquino shortly before the start of the annual Islamic Conference meeting. [begin (Abas) recording] Misuari used that meeting in order to show the Islamic Conference that he is acceptable to the opposition, in order to contradict [as heard] the fact that the opposition leaders have agreements with the Moro National Liberation Front. [end recording] [Text] [Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 21 Jan 86] /8309

CSO: 4200/577

SINGAPORE

SECOND EMERGENCY BROKERS' FUND PROPOSED

HK230950 Hong Kong AFP in English 0924 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Singapore, 23 Jan (AFP)--Banks here have proposed a second multi-million dollar emergency brokers' fund to the republic's de facto central bank, the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), local banking sources said today.

The sources said the 300 million Singapore dollar (U.S.\$141 million) plan, involving mainly foreign banks, had already obtained the support of the Stock Exchange of Singapore (SES).

The MAS, which tightened its supervisory control over the exchange last month, is considered likely to examine the proposal in great detail because it would involve foreign banks.

A consortium of banks came up with the proposal to provide additional emergency liquidity to the fragile broking system should it be unable to meet forward contracts obligations.

Inability to meet such contracts worth millions of dollars sparked off the Pan-Electric crisis last year, which triggered a 3-day suspension of trading in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur in December.

It would be the second rescue plan of this type since four major banks here made a \$180 million (U.S.\$85 million) deal for an emergency credit line for the industry following the Pan-Electric crisis.

Meanwhile, press reports today said that the steering committee of creditor banks to Pan-Electric had asked the government to consider the option of bailing out the group now under receivership.

Quoting the chairman of the committee and director of the London office of the Standard Chartered Merchant Bank, THE STRAITS TIMES said this was one of the possibilities the committee was working on to inject cash into the group to keep it going.

Mr Kaye has estimated it would take between 100 and 200 million dollars (46 to 94 million U.S.) to make Pan-Electric viable.

However, Price Waterhouse, the court-appointed receivers, said Pan-El would run out of working capital at the end of the month.

The steering committee represents creditor banks which are owed some \$400 million (U.S.\$188 million) by Pan Electric and its subsidiaries.

Mr Kaye said the committee had presented the authorities with "all the facts they are aware of."

The steering committee is not the first group to ask the government to consider using public funds to save the situation. A group of professionals, including some members of parliament, had also strongly urged the government to bail out the securities industry.

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CSO: 4200/591

THAILAND

DAILIES VIEW 15 JAN CABINET RESHUFFLE

BK180902 [Editorial Report] Three Thai-language Bangkok dailies--SIAM RAT, NAEO NA, and THAI RAT on 17 and 18 January carry editorials commenting on Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon's decision to reshuffle his cabinet.

SIAM RAT's 17 January 800-word page 3 editorial entitled: "The Cabinet Reshuffle" notes that reshuffles are a common practice in democratic countries. However, the latest reshuffle, officially announced on 15 January, was different from past ones because "it has failed to satisfy the people or at least their representatives."

"The people, members of the House of Representatives, and political parties have called for a new cabinet line-up and suggested qualified appointees. Unfortunately, the prime minister has not listened to them. Although the prime minister himself was not elected by the people, he acquired his premiership with the support of the members of the House of Representatives who were directly elected by the people."

The paper continues: "Even the Social Action Party [SAP] itself is not happy with the limited cabinet shakeup because the prime minister seems to be concerned about his own interests rather than those of the people."

NEAO NA's 18 January 900-word page 4 editorial entitled: "The Cabinet Reshuffle" says: "Everyone knows that the cabinet reshuffle is the result of the split within the SAP. It remains to be seen if the reshuffle will help settle the conflict in the party."

"The exclusion of some ministers from the new cabinet without their resignation has sparked discontent among some factions in the SAP. MP's from the northern provinces have complained that the reorganization of the cabinet was not made on the basis of seniority, resulting in the dropping of Buntheng Thongsawat from the list."

"It is obvious that the reshuffle will not settle any rift in the SAP. On the contrary, it might further aggravate the situation in the party. However, this matter also depends on the sense of responsibility and mentality of the SAP MP's."

The paper says: "In fact the conflict within the SAP was caused by the rivalry for personal gain among the party MP's who have shamelessly been competing with each other for portfolios. The call has long been made for a cabinet reshuffle in the hope of improving the government's efficiency. The people will have to wait to see if the new cabinet changes will bring anything better."

THAI RAT's 18 January 800-word page 3 editorial entitled: "The Result of the Cabinet Reshuffle" says that the cabinet reshuffle will help "ease the tense political situation for a while, but it is unlikely to have much effect on the government's policies."

The paper points out that newly-appointed Commerce Minister Surat Osathanukhro has explicitly voiced his opposition to the paddy price lifting scheme of his predecessor Koson Krairoek. Therefore, the new commerce minister will probably have his own method of solving the current paddy problem.

The paper says that the former commerce minister was forced to leave his post because the rice millers, traders, and exporters refused to accept the paddy price officially fixed at 3,000 baht per ton for fear that they would make less profit. It is the duty of the new commerce minister to find "effective measures to boost paddy prices to a level satisfactory to farmers." He might seek new markets for Thai rice, revise the export quota system to prevent the decline of paddy prices, and expand government-to-government trade with foreign countries. It is very challenging for the new commerce minister to use the time left to this government to tackle the problem."

The paper concludes by reiterating that the cabinet change "will only relieve the political tension and pressure imposed on the coalition government by the SAP."

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CSO: 4207/144

THAILAND

KHUKRIT REITERATES CRITICISM OF PREM GOVERNMENT

BK221214 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 22 Jan 86 p 7

[M.R. Khukrit Pramot's "Soi Suan Phlu" column]

[Excerpts] "Guru Khukrit, Sukhrip who uprooted the giant tree" is the title of the Chippachon Siam column published in DAO SIAM on 21 January. Thank you. I really felt much honored for being compared to the great monkey king in the Ramayana epic who uprooted the biggest tree in the land.

However, there are only weeds and seasonal plants in Thailand. I do not see any big trees.

A news report published by BAN MUANG newspaper the same day said: Khukrit strikes harder to oust "Prem." An equally capable person is needed. The paper continued: On the morning of 20 January, Interior Minister General Sitthi Chirarot told newsmen about reports that M.R. Khukrit has been trying to sack Sommai Huntrakun from his finance portfolio even though it might lead to a dissolution of parliament. I have never agreed with the financial policy of the present government. I made this clear long ago. I believe that the financial policy has caused stagnancy, and a decline in investment and employment. This is not a small matter. If things are allowed to continue, the country will catch fire. We cannot be quiet just to keep only one person, the prime minister, happy. I softly mentioned this problem on several occasions and brought it up for discussion with Prime Minister Prem twice. But nothing happened. So I have to speak louder.

You can hear the people talking about this matter everywhere even if I had not mentioned it.

It was even said that nobody can touch Khun Sommai because he is most favoured by the most respected. Those people who are in charge of defending the [monarchy] institution do not seem to be annoyed by such an unscrupulous rumor because they are busy with pleasing the prime minister.

I always reject the rumor whenever I hear about it. Nobody listens to me, so I have to speak out although some people might try to misinterpret what I say.

Talking about weeds and seasonal plants reminds me of dry toiting [herb] seeds. They will pop and make a sound when you pour water on them. Toiting grows among weeds and seasonal plants.

THAILAND

THAI, U.S. OFFICIALS MEET ON FARM ACT

BK231541 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Industry Minister Chirayu Itsarangkun Na Ayutthaya spoke to newsmen this evening about the outcome of the joint U.S.-Thai meeting on the U.S. Farm Act. The U.S. team is led by U.S. Ambassador to Thailand William Brown.

The Thai team requested the U.S. ambassador to present Thailand's proposals on this matter to the U.S. President for consideration. The proposals are as follows: When the United States writes the rules and regulations under the provisions of the Farm Act, Thailand would like to send experts who will supply the United States with data to enable both countries to work in coordination in their mutual interest without hurting the interests of American farmers. Thailand would also like the U.S. Government to know that it is not true, as the U.S. Government understands, that Thailand provides heavy subsidies and support for its exports, giving them an unfair advantage over U.S. producers. The industry minister said that Thailand also wanted the U.S. Government to know that the effects from U.S. rice exports on the U.S. economy and U.S. farmers are minimal compared with the effects on Thailand where 60 percent of the population are rice farmers. Thailand is a frontline country with poor economy. It has a heavy burden to shoulder concerning itself and toward the free world. The impact on Thailand would be far-reaching.

The meeting was also attended by the economic committee and the foreign affairs committee of the House of Representatives. They expressed concern over the political impact both Thailand and the United States may have to suffer from the issue, both domestically and internationally. They feared that the issue may be exploited by some to destroy the good relations existing between the two countries.

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CSO: 4207/145

THAILAND

SITTHI ON BROAD OBJECTIVES OF FOREIGN POLICY

BK231142 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 23 Jan 86 pp 1, 16

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila on 22 January gave a speech at Chulalongkorn University's department of education on the implementation of Thailand's foreign policy through peaceful means in dealing with international conflicts. He said Thailand's foreign policy was designed to defend and promote the interests of the country and the people.

In principle, problems must be settled through peaceful means, not confrontation. Conflicts with enemies or unfriendly countries will be settled on the basis on righteousness and reality. In general, the country's foreign policy stresses respect for international law and the UN Charter and diplomatic efforts to lay the political, economic, and social foundations for world peace.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said that Thailand harbors no ill intention toward Vietnam and is ready to hold talks with SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to end the Cambodian conflict. However, Vietnam must be sincere in such talks. It must not exploit the talks for political or propaganda purposes. However, we must wait for the result of the meeting between Nguyen Co Thach and Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, who has been appointed as ASEAN representative to contact Vietnam.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi noted that international economic conflicts have occurred due to the economic slump in the industrialized countries which have, in turn, prompted them to resort to protectionist measures.

He said: "Thailand has been affected by these economic conflicts because it depends heavily on international trade. Thailand must call for bilateral and multilateral meetings with GATT signatories in a bid to eliminate protectionist measures, tax barriers, and other obstacles which hinder the expansion of the world economy."

He said that the U.S. Food Security Act's objective is to enable U.S. agricultural products to compete with products from developed countries such as Australia and EEC member countries. However, Thailand is worried

that the United States will dump its rice on the world market and seize Thai rice markets. The Thai Foreign Ministry is making diplomatic efforts to ask the United States to prevent the act from affecting Thailand. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said that diplomatic efforts and negotiations can settle any conflict and prevent it from expanding. In implementing its foreign policy amid the current political and economic conflicts in the world, Thailand always resorts to peaceful and diplomatic efforts and negotiations.

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CSO: 4207/144

SITTHI ON ECONOMIC STRATEGY, U.S. PROTECTIONISM

BK181413 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said at the Foreign Ministry this evening that Thailand might face economic problems deriving from external causes. For example, it can be predicted that the Farm Act will certainly lead to competition with the United States in the world rice market and affect Thailand's 40-percent market share, although the act has not yet had any immediate repercussion. In reality, not only the United States but every country in the world will resort to more protectionist measures. However, it is understood that the United States has to adopt various protectionist measures because it has suffered enormous trade deficits with other countries.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that, during the past few years, Thailand made only a small profit from exporting a few products to the United States. Therefore, Thailand has not caused any problem to the United States in this regard. Further study reveals that the unrealistically high value of the U.S. dollar and the beyond-the-limits economic relationship between the United States and Japan as well as other developed countries and the European Community are the real cause of the U.S. shortfall. In any event, the competition will definitely be stronger in the future, and Thailand will have to monitor the situation closely in the regions where its representatives are stationed. Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry has instructed its officials to keep a close watch on economic developments.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi said that to cope with trade protectionism, Thailand must reduce its dependence on its major trade partners--only one or two countries. After consultations with other agencies concerned, four operational plans were formulated as follows: Market survey, follow-up, quick solutions to immediate problems, and promotion and public relations. Since economic ties can be established only when mutual confidence and trust have been created through diplomatic means, Thailand must therefore increase its role in the international arena. In 1985,

Thailand sent delegations to countries in the socialist bloc, Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia, the South Pacific, and Africa to open new markets for its products. Diplomatic efforts have been effective in promoting trade and economic cooperation with other countries, improving the country's image, as well as to attracting foreign tourists and investment to Thailand, opening new markets for the Thai labor force, and increasing cultural relations with other countries. It can be concluded that, although the country's economy has been affected to a certain extent, the general situation is still under control. Thailand will become a major industrial country in this region in line with its current foreign policy.

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CSO: 4207/145

THAILAND

CHAWALIT DISCUSSES ECONOMY, U.S. AID, DOMESTIC POLITICS

Notes Soviet Trade Offers

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 7 Nov 85 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the Army's chief-of-staff, explained the national security situation to civil servants who are going abroad at Bangkok Metropolis Office during the afternoon of 6 November.

General Chawalit stated that there are regional superpower conflicts among the Soviet Union, the United States and China, starting with the problem with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. This conflict is an ideological one which continued to develop until it became a conflict between ASEAN and Indochina.

There is no conflict between Thailand and ASEAN with Indochina but we cannot allow any country to invade another country or stronger countries to abuse weaker ones. We do not want to get involved in the Cambodia issue because more problems will arise. Fighting on territory where there should not be any fighting or fighting that is not a direct benefit to Vietnam is Vietnam's problem. The fighting has dragged out and nobody can tell when it is going to end.

"Whether it ends or not does not depend on Vietnam but on the Cambodian people's struggle. Even if there were only a single person, the war would still exist if there is the spirit to fight back," General Chawalit said. He also said that the problem of the fighting in Cambodia will drag out as long as the Cambodian people still have the aim to fight back.

As for Laos, we are watching whether it is trying to take part in Vietnam's scheme or moving in order to get involved in the Cambodian problem. As for Burma, which has been an ally of Thailand's for a long time, although the Burmese government wants friendship with neighboring countries, misunderstandings have arisen in the past between the Burmese and Thai governments. The Burmese government thinks that the Thai government supports minority groups but Thailand does not support them at all. Relations between Thailand and Burma can only improve progressively.

Gen Chawalit stated that as for Malaysia, there are not too many problems. Malaysian communist terrorists, political terrorists, CPT problems and various

movements that had built up over decades have been resolved. The Malaysian communist problem, which has been a thorn pricking the heart of its neighbor country, has been reduced and its influence progressively diminished.

General Chawalit stated further regarding other problems, such as the political and economic situations, that the economic situation is the most critical one. The Thai economy is in rather critical condition because of labor problems, low agricultural production, and the trade deficit, for example. To solve these problems, we must first see which are major ones and which are secondary ones. The most critical and important problem now is the long mounting financial one, which the government must solve.

General Chawalit revealed that we are creating this problem by spending more money than we have. We do not economize, so that money reserves have gradually disappeared. The government is currently lowering expenditures, such as by promoting exports and using Thai products to reduce expenditures. Some people think that the political problem is alarming. If we look at the situation, it is alarming. However, the prime minister is using his abilities to solve the problem. There is no coalition government in the world that has lasted 3 years like the Thai government.

Nevertheless, if the executive power is not tough enough, it is impossible to solve any type of problem. As long as political parties do not interfere with minor problems, we can manage to solve them. We have to be sincere and think about the national interest and the general interest as top priorities. We want to see unity from the government first and then we will be able to solve the problems.

General Chawalit stated that when we perceive such tremendous problems, sometimes we are discouraged and do not want to get involved. But he himself wants to say that in comparing what we are encountering with other countries, that we are far better off than they. Our society is generous with a royal head of state that we love and worship.

Somebody asked why are we buying F-16's since Thailand presently has economic problems. General Chawalit clarified that in purchasing the airplanes, as it has been said many times, it is not the intention of the armed forces to put through the F-16 purchase. He said that we only proposed it to higher levels, that the military belongs to the people, and that if the people say that they do not want it, we would not want it. However, most of the budget we purchased it with we got as military aid from the United States. The purchase is a long term plan made in correspondence with the national development plan. As for having U.S. military bases move to Thailand if the Philippines has problems, Thailand does not have a policy of having foreign military bases in the country.

As for the method for solving the crisis, General Chawalit pointed out that there is no problem that we cannot solve, if we adhere to the public interest, the truth and righteousness. There have been many crises in the past, including the September incident; most of the people do not want to return to the old ways. We ourselves are trying to do our best. This is a simple matter, not complex at all.

"I do not have anything special, except that I believe in purity, sincerity, righteousness, and justice," General Chawalit stated. He stated frankly concerning the opening of the Soviet textile market that he himself believes it is a good approach because it is a way for developing understanding and a new way for developing a market. However, we must examine a bit more whether the actions of those who want to be friends with us are sincere.

F-16 Purchase, Army Political Party

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 7 Nov 85 pp 1, 2, 20

[Excerpt] General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, the army chief of staff, was invited to discuss the general and security situations with civil servants and state enterprise employees in training before their departure for continuing education or to observe work abroad. He spoke at the Office of the Civil Service Commission on the afternoon of 6 November. After General Chawalit finished his explanation, this writer asked him why are we using such a huge budget to buy F-16 aircraft since we are poor right now. General Chawalit replied that the F-16 purchase was not intended by the military to apply pressure, that we could only propose our need to higher levels, and that purchasing the F-16s is only a minor matter. We have a foreign currency shortage problem that the government is trying to solve. In addition, we need new technology. Right now we have 80 to 90 percent of our energy sources in the Gulf of Thailand. If one day we are attacked, we will be hurt a lot and our country immediately paralyzed. The F-16 purchase is for preserving and defending the national interest. "Tell me whether you think it is worth it," General Chawalit stressed.

Somebody asked further as to how a reported accommodation between Russia and China would affect us. General Chawalit said that it is good if they can shake hands again, that it is good to be friends, just be sincere with each other. There were more questions about how trade with Russia will affect security. The army chief of staff stated that trade is a good principle for developing understanding and seeking new markets. However, we must look at events and the kind of agreement, and whether the relationship is sincere on their part. A Russian attache asked me why we are not hurrying to develop relations with them. I told him that we do not have to hurry, just take it slowly. It is easy to be friends but to make relations last is difficult.

There was another question about the truth to rumors that a military party is going to be formed in 1987. General Chawalit replied that he himself is not able to say and that he does not know. He said that the military itself has not thought about this, but that individuals might. He said that it is not correct to call it a military party, that nobody thinks that parties like the Chart Thai Party, which is headed by former soldiers, are military parties. As for the military not wanting to get involved with politics, we want to have a part in explaining to the public that certain political parties do not have any idea about the public's desires. Our armed forces have the duty to develop society and to develop security as well.

12587/12274
CSO: 4207/81

THAILAND

ATHIT ON ROLE OF ARMY IN SOLVING PROBLEMS

BK201146 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 20 Jan 86 pp 3, 2

[Text] Supreme Commander and Army Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek yesterday presided over the opening of the new command headquarters of the 11th Infantry Division in Muang District of Chachoengsao Province. In his speech at the opening ceremony, General Athit noted that the unit is carrying out an important task in providing military training for reservists because the Armed Forces can only keep the manpower they deem necessary. Therefore, we must have a unit to be in charge of training reservists.

General Athit said that the training should emphasize the concept of trainees telling other people that our Armed Forces are stable, adding that it is the policy of the Armed Forces to develop their combat efficiency in terms of both manpower and weapons. We will not allow budgetary limitations to have any effect on our combat readiness. He asked soldiers to be united and obey their superiors in executing the assignments given by the Army regardless how difficult they might be. He said that soldiers must be sincere with each other; otherwise, they will not be able to work together and fight the enemy.

General Athit also said that soldiers must be able to solve all problems for the government and for themselves. We must be able to survive amid the economic crisis. Superiors must pay attention to their subordinates. If soldiers are not united, it will be difficult to find any institution to solve the country's problems when it is necessary. The people who can solve problems must have the power that derives from the consolidation of minds. Therefore, solidarity and sincerity are important to solving problems.

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THAILAND

POLICE SET UP INTELLIGENCE 'WORKING TEAM'

BK201004 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 20 Jan 86 pp 1, 16

[Text] According to a report from the police department, Police General Narong Mahanon recently issued an order setting up the "central intelligence working team of the police department." Assistant Police Director General Police Major General Phao Sarasin and Police Colonel Anan Phiromkaoe were appointed chief and secretary general of the team respectively. Our correspondent believed that the fast-changing and more complicated economic and political situation as well as other problems regarding national security are the motives behind the establishment of this new working group. He noted that police intelligence procedures are inadequate to keep up with current developments, adding that the police department was not aware at the beginning that the recent protest rally in front of Government House was masterminded by "Colonel Phon Roengprasoetwit."

The police department new working group reportedly has been assigned as its major task gathering intelligence and analyzing news items and reporting directly to the police director general every week. It will also act as a tool to examine the accuracy of the police department's normal intelligence sources and screen news reports from different police units, which are normally presented to police meetings by their representatives.

It was reported that other members of the working group include Metropolitan Police Commissioner Police Lieutenant General Sawaeng Thirasawat; Provincial Police Bureau 1 Commissioner Police Lieutenant General Prachan Phramphan; Central Investigation Bureau Commander Police Lieutenant General Samoe Damaphong; Special Branch Division Commander Police Major General Kasem Saengmit; Crime Suppression Division Commander Police Major General Bunchu Wangkanon; Commander of Section 2 of Special Branch Division Police Colonel Chatchai Suphangkhasen; Commander of Section 6 of Special Branch Division Police Colonel Udom Charoen; and Police Lieutenant Colonel Chalat Kitchatham, Deputy Commander of Section 2 of Special Branch Division and assistant secretary of the working group.

Meanwhile, Police Maj Gen Kasem Saengmit disclosed that the police Special Branch Division is now keeping a close watch on the movements of missionaries in Thailand because some of them have been engaged in activities detrimental to national security.

The police Special Branch Division commander revealed that it has recently been learned that some foreigners posing as missionaries were hired as mercenaries by the Karen national liberation force in Burma while others sneaked into Laos to search for Americans held as prisoners of war in that country.

Police Maj Gen Kasem said: "We are very concerned about this problem because it can affect our good relations with neighboring countries, because they might think we support such activities. We always try to intercept them and expel them from our country."

He also disclosed that 10 foreigners went to the Burmese border area through Thailand and were hired as mercenaries by the Karens. Thai authorities later managed to get them out of the area. They are now quiet but are still under close police surveillance and will be expelled from the country if they engage in such activities again. Meanwhile, the Malaysian police reported to the Special Branch Division that James Bo Gritz, a U.S. Vietnam war veteran who once went to search for U.S. MIA's in Laos, crossed the border into Thailand about 2 weeks ago. However, the Thai police are still unable to locate him.

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THAILAND

FOREIGN MINISTRY LISTS VIETNAMESE VIOLATIONS IN DECEMBER

BK161406 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement on violations of Thailand's sovereignty by Vietnamese soldiers and the number of Vietnamese illegal immigrants. From the beginning of December 1985, Vietnamese soldiers fired into Thailand with heavy weapons many times and repeatedly made incursions into Thai territory. Incidents that occurred between 1 and 13 [as heard] December are as follows:

1. Vietnamese soldiers fired mortar, artillery, recoilless rifles, and RPG rounds into Thailand 578 times. The shells landed on Thai territory from 1 to 9.5 km from the border.
2. Vietnamese soldiers intruded into Thailand nine times. On 9 and 30 December, about 110 Vietnamese soldiers intruded into Thailand about 3.5 km from the border.
3. Thailand's losses are as follows: In December 1985, a number of Thai soldiers, policemen, and civilians were hit by landmines planted in Thailand by Vietnam. Sixteen were wounded and four were killed. On 5 December, Vietnamese antiaircraft fired at Thai reconnaissance planes overflying Thai territory 20 times altogether. On 7 December Vietnamese soldiers fired 30 rounds of 122 mm artillery and mortar into Thailand. One house was destroyed and one Thai civilian was wounded. On 16 December Vietnamese soldiers fired several 75-mm recoilless rifle rounds into Thailand. Two Thai officials were seriously wounded. On 29 December Thai officials clashed with a number of Vietnamese intruders inside Thailand. Two Thai officials were killed. On 31 December one Thai soldier was seriously wounded in a clash with Vietnamese soldiers who intruded into Thailand.
4. In December, three Vietnamese soldiers surrendered to Thai authorities. Thai authorities meanwhile captured one Vietnamese soldier for intruding into Thai territory.
5. The number of Vietnamese refugees arriving in Thailand both by land and sea and who are still in Thailand on 1 December totalled 9,188.

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CSO: 4207/145

THAILAND

VOFA ON SRV CHARGE CAMBODIAN FORCES GIVEN SANCTUARY

BK231023 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Article: "Thailand Is Not a Sanctuary for Foreign Forces"]

[Text] In the 1984-1985 dry season, Vietnamese troops intruded many times into Thailand. Vietnamese authorities stated that their troops launched attacks in the border region to sweep out the CGDK troops who stayed in refugee camps on Thai territory.

Since the beginning of 1985, Vietnamese leaders have used their propaganda machine to charge that Thailand has allowed the forces of the coalition government of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Son Sann, and Khieu Samphan to take refuge and launch attacks against Vietnamese soldiers posted along the Thai-Cambodian border. The Thai Government has rejected this charge. Thailand does not have any policy to allow other nations' forces to use its territory for military purposes. Thailand has accepted only civilian refugees, in particular children, the elderly, and women who fled the war in Cambodia staged by Vietnam. Although Thailand is not the cause of the Cambodian people's suffering, Thailand has received 250,000 Cambodian refugees in 1985, providing them refuge, food, clothing, and medicines. The refugee problem has been a heavy burden for the Thai Government which has fed about 150,000 refugees since the Indochina war 10 years ago. Why does Thailand have to help nearly half a million refugees?

Vietnamese leaders can provide the best answer. The United Nations and various foreign relief organizations, which have helped refugees on the Thai-Cambodian border, have been the good witnesses of the goodwill, fraternity, and compassion of Thailand toward these refugees. Moreover, six high-ranking Australian politicians and the representatives of the UNHCR and various relief organizations travelled to the Thai-Cambodian border to observe the situation there. These Australian politicians saw the living conditions of the refugees. When they returned to their country, they reported to the Australian Government about the needs of the refugees which it might be able to provide for. Furthermore, Australia has accepted many Indochinese refugees to settle there. These Australian politicians met and talked to the refugees. They noted that there are no Cambodian soldiers in any refugee camps. There are some men who are

relieved of military duty and come to visit their relatives in the camps. They do not wear military clothes and have no weapons. This clearly shows that Thailand is sincere and is always ready to let anyone observe reality in order to reject the charge by Vietnam's propaganda machine which has said that Thailand has allowed the CGDK forces to gather their troops and weapons to launch attacks against Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia. Thailand has stated many times that it does not allow foreign troops to enter its territory. Even if they want to enter Thailand, they are disarmed and are under the control of Thai authorities.

Vietnam has no right nor reason to launch its attacks against various camps in Thailand, as it did in the 1984-1985 dry season. In reality, Vietnam does not have any moral or legal reasons to interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs or to keep many troops in Cambodia. Furthermore, Vietnam has violated Thailand's sovereignty, but Thailand is not its enemy and does not have a common border with it. On the other hand, Vietnam has a shameless pretext that it is helping the Heng Samrin puppet government which has not been recognized by the international community.

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THAILAND

BRIEFS

FARMER PROTEST--Supreme Commander and Army Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek talked to representatives of the coordinating committee for national security at the Capital Security Command yesterday afternoon about a report that farmers plan to stage a rally in Bangkok soon. He said that normally farmers live in peace and quiet because they are surrounded by nature and trees. They live peacefully, so when they complain it means they have problems. They would probably come to Bangkok in an orderly manner, but there is till no move. The farmers have to explain if they suffer hardships, and we should listen to them. Please do not think that they would cause trouble or chaos. I, on behalf of the ordinary person, do not think it is serious. We still cannot make any comment on it since it is only in the news. However, the government has tried its best to help the farmers. We should give the government time to help the farmers. We should give the government time to solve problems. [Text] [Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 22 Jan 86 pp 2, 3] /9604

RICE DEAL WITH PRC--A Chinese trade team led by Mr (Cao Wanton) paid a courtesy call on Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila today. The Chinese team is in Thailand to negotiate for the import of an additional 80,000 tons of Thai rice which was agreed upon during the meeting between Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and Air Chief Marshal Sitthi earlier. The Chinese team also congratulated Air Chief Marshal Sitthi for his appointment as deputy prime minister. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 17 Jan 86]

PREM-LEE KUAN YEW MEETING--Visiting Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew this morning held talks with Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at the Oriental Hotel. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, National Security Council Secretary General Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, and Army Chief of Staff General Chawalit Yongchayut were also present at the meeting, which lasted for about an hour. Director General of the Foreign Ministry Information Department Sawanit Khongsiri reported afterwards that both sides exchanged views on regional political and economic issues and the problem in Cambodia. The two prime ministers agreed that a ceremonial summit of the ASEAN should be held in the Philippines this year. The exact date and details will

be fixed later. They also agreed that a full-scale meeting of ASEAN leaders should be held in Thailand next year. The Singapore prime minister and his wife left Thailand after the meeting. They flew out of the Air Force Command Airport at 1410. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila saw the guests off at the airport. [Excerpts] [Bangkok Domestic Television Service in Thai 1300 GMT 19 Jan 86] /9604

VIETNAMESE SOLDIER SURRENDERS--The Border Patrol Police in Prachin Buri Province reported that a Vietnamese soldier surrendered to Thai authorities in Ban Khok Sabaeng, Aranyaprathet District, Prachin Buri Province, on Wednesday. Private (Hu Yong) told Thai authorities that he was sick of fighting in Cambodia and would like to settle elsewhere. Private (Hu Yong) is the 10th deserter from the Vietnamese army to surrender to Thai authorities this month. [Text] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 25 Jan 86] /9604

OUTGOING FOREIGN AMBASSADORS--His majesty the king today granted separate audiences to British Ambassador to Thailand H.A.J. Staples and his wife and Danish Ambassador to Thailand William Schmidt Mcilquham and his wife after the completion of their terms in Thailand at Chilada Palace. [Summary] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Jan 86] /9604

TAPIOCA EXPORTS TO EC--The Foreign Trade Department reported that in 1985, Thailand exported a total of 4,924,912 tons of tapioca products to European Community countries. This year Thailand has received a quota of 4,567,779 tons for tapioca exports to the EC. [Summary] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 9 Jan 86] /9604

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

STRENGTHENING UPPER ECHELON PARTY ORGANIZATIONS DISCUSSED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Oct 85, pp 12-18, 35

[Article by Maj Gen Le Cu: "Build Pure , Strong Basic Party Organizations in Organs with High Concentrations of Party Members Who Are High-Ranking and Middle-Ranking Cadres"]

[Text] Increasing the combat strength, initiative, creativity, and stability of the basic party organizations so that they can correspond to their position, is always a foremost mission of the Party as a whole, as set forth by the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress.

Because the political missions of the basic units in the army differ, there are many types of basic party organizations. The basic party organizations of organs at the strategic and campaign levels are one of those types. It is a type of basic party organization that plays an important role and has characteristics which differ from those of the other basic party organizations.

First of all, in the basic party organizations of the strategic and campaign echelons there are concentrated many party members who are high-ranking or middle-ranking cadres. They are a corps with high chronological age and much time in the army and the party, who have political and military ability, have moral quality, have revolutionary virtue, and have much experience in leadership, command, and organization.

The political mission of such basic party organizations is to help the party committees and commanders guide, manage, and organize the implementation of all policies, orders,directives, and plan that have been decided upon. At the same time, they study, discover, and recommend matters and serve as the staffs for the party committees and commanders in drafting policies and plans for all units under their authority. The question of whether the cadre organ is strong or weak has a good or bad effect on the situation of the army and the units. The question of whether the army, the military regions, the armed forces branches, the combat arms, the corps, etc., fulfill their military missions well or not depends to an important degree on their cadres and party members and on the effectiveness of the basic party organizations with regard to those cadres and party members. The strategic and campaign organs synthesize and analyze all aspects of the situation and are responsible for

many security matters of strategic significance of the state and army, and for military defense and military secrets. Therefore, the strategic and campaign organs are always focal points of enemy intelligence activities.

Those characteristics exert rather strong influence on the contents of building basic party organizations in the organs.

To build pure, strong basic party organizations in organs in which there are concentrated many high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres is to build leadership organs which serve as the hard core in building organs that are strong in all regards, solidly ensure the fulfillment of the organs' political missions, and effectively serve the party committees and commanders in leading and managing the development, combat-readiness, and combat missions of the army and of the military regions, armed forces branches, combat arms, corps, etc. Therefore, in addition to firmly grasping the general requirements and norms of the building of pure, strong basic party organizations, it is also necessary to determine specific political, ideological, and organizational directions and contents on the basis of the specific characteristics and missions of the basic party organizations in the strategic and campaign organs, to enable the building of basic party organizations in the organs to have realistic, appropriate contents and contribute to increasing the combativeness and effectiveness of the leadership of basic party organizations.

Along those lines, during the past 3 years many all-out efforts have been made in building pure, strong basic party organizations in the General Staff and real results which have contributed to bringing about a Transformation in the organ in many regards.

In view of the extremely complicated development and combat missions, during the past several years the organs in the General Staff have, generally speaking, done a good job of fulfilling their responsibility, and have contributed, along with the entire army, to fulfilling the military missions of the General Staff, especially its mission of fighting the border encroachment war and the multifaceted war of destruction waged by the Chinese reactionaries and the international missions of our army in Cambodia and Laos. However, in view of the very difficult requirements of the enterprise of defending the Fatherland and the great undertaking of building the people's armed forces and building a regular, modern People's Army, the ability, quality, and work effectiveness of the organs, the combativeness of the basic party organizations, and the vanguard role of the corps of cadres and party members, especially the party members who are high-level and middle-level cadres of the General Staff, must also be brought into play to a greater degree.

From a recapitulation of 3 years of building basic party organizations in General Staff organs it is possible to point out the following experiences in building pure, strong basic party organizations in a strategic-level organ with many party members who are high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres.

1. Closely combine the building of basic party organizations with building up the organ. The basic party organizations must clearly realize the position,

firmly grasp the functions and missions of the organ, and lead the organ in the good fulfillment of the missions assigned it, in correct accordance with the political and military lines of the Party and the orders, directives, and plans of the commander.

A matter of life-or-death importance with regard to a strategic-level organ with their function of organizing and guiding implementation and their functions of serving as staffs and studying and recommending policies and plans to the commander, is to always firmly grasp, and correctly implement, the policies of the Party. The cadres and party members of strategic-level organs, especially high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres, must not only have correct knowledge and though but also be skillful in concretizing the lines and policies of the Party in their actions and work plans, according to their professional functions. That is a very difficult requirement and cannot be compromised, for the inaccuracy or accuracy of an organ's plan exerts a very great influence on the army as a whole. Therefore, the basic party organizations in strategic organs must regard enabling cadres and party members to fully understand the political and military lines of the Party, especially its military line, in the period of building and defending the Vietnamese socialist Fatherland, is a foremost mission and is also a basic content of building basic party organizations and pure, strong organs. Understanding of the military line must be complete and include the line of building national defense by all the people, the line of building people's armed forces, and the line of waging people's war to defend the Fatherland. Party members who are high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres must thoroughly understand and be in agreement with the military line of the Party, profoundly understand such basic matters as the military objectives, objects, and missions and the nature and characteristics of wars that may break out, and firmly grasp the viewpoints and guidance thoughts of the great undertaking of building and consolidating national defense and building up the armed forces, and the mode of waging war to defend the Fatherland.

The party's present military line is as new development of its military line during the period of liberation war and war to defend the nation over a period of several decades, inherits the long military tradition of our nation, assimilates the best features of the storehouse of experience in military struggle of the world revolution, and has been further developed in the course of actually building up national defense and fighting to defend the Fatherland against the Chinese aggressor troops and their lackeys. To profoundly understand that line, cadres and party members must have practical and developed viewpoints. All manifestations of empiricism and conservatism, or being mechanical or imitative, even if unintentional, will lead to knowledge, thoughts, and acts which are not in accord with the line. Therefore, the process of enabling cadres and party members to fully understand the lines is also a process in which increasing combativeness in the ideological work and clarifying what is correct and what is incorrect cannot be regarded lightly.

At the strategic level, as at the campaign level, the organs are specialized. Each organ enters deeply into a certain professional aspect and serves the command work. Some organs specialized in military science research, some specialize in organization and mobilization, others specialize in recommending operational plans, in training, in studying the enemy, etc. The

implementation of the Party's lines in the organs must first of all and directly be manifested in the specific work plans and policies of each sector. If the task of inspecting the implementation of lines by the basic party organizations is to be sharp and develop real effectiveness, it is necessary to enter deeply into the specific missions and work plans of each sector and organ, and thereby uncover incorrect knowledge, viewpoints, and thoughts, clarify what is correct and what is incorrect, and continually improve the knowledge of lines by cadres and party members.

The recent experience of the General Staff has shown that in organs which do not do a good job of overseeing the explanation of lines, or carry out that task superficially and do not enter into the specific work and plans of each element, the effectiveness of leadership of the basic party organizations and party chapters cannot be high. The principal reason for that situation, in the final analysis, is that the basic party organizations there do not fully understand the basic viewpoints and thoughts of the military line of the Party, on the basis of which to carry out the specialized and professional missions of the organs.

Firmly grasping the military viewpoints and thoughts of the Party, closely monitoring the battlefield and the actual combat situation, overcoming difficulties, organizing implementation by means of the orders and plans of the commander, and being positive, active, and creative in studying and recommending opinions, policies, measures, etc., are very basic requirements of the organs and are at the same time very basic leadership and development contents of the basic party organizations at the strategic and campaign levels. The evaluation of the fulfillment of the organ's missions, and be used to determine the development of organs and to continually strengthen the organization of pure, strong basic party organizations.

2. Develop the role of the party chapters and positively and actively bolster the corps of party members with regard to both moral quality and ability, especially party members who are managing cadres, and regard that as a key link in building basic party organizations.

Strong basic party organizations must have strong party chapters and a strong corps of party members. The same is true with regard to the basic party organizations in research organs with many party members who are high-ranking or middle-ranking cadres.

In organs at the strategic and campaign levels, the work of party members who are cadres, especially high-level and middle-level cadres, is highly independent in nature. All party members, including those who are commanders, are active in the party chapters. The party chapters directly manage and educate the party members. Therefore, building pure, strong party chapters is a matter that is even more urgent with regard to the basic party organizations in the organs. Thus the organ party chapters must truly discuss and explain the lines, policies, and viewpoints of the Party, struggle to distinguish between right and wrong, and directly lead the fulfillment of the unit's political missions. The organ party chapters must uncover and promptly correct the mistakes of party members and cadres, especially matters regarding the lines and viewpoints of the Party and the enforcement of laws,

principles, and work rules and regulation, and regard them as principal contents in the leadership work of the party chapters. The party chapters must pay all-out attention to managing party members, including party members who are managing cadres and high-ranking cadres, but they must also have management modes that are appropriate to high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres, people who are older and have many years' experience in the party and army, have much experience in actual revolutionary struggle, have political skill and military ability, and have revolutionary moral qualities. However, in addition to those strengths it is difficult to avoid weaknesses caused by the special characteristics of such cadres, such as subjectivism, conservatism, empiricism, the attitude of becoming self-satisfied and slowing down, and the lack of a strong will to advance, etc. Therefore, in such places the management of party members must closely combine the responsibility of the party members with the strong self-enlightenment of each party member and cadre. Party chapters must strengthen their management of party members, each of whom must place himself under the management of the party chapter. The party committees and party chapters must continually grasp all aspects of the situation of party members: when they are at the organ, when they travel individually on official business, and when they return to their families. The party chapters must have close relations with the party committees and governmental administrations in places where the party members live and the units in places where party members usually work, in order to clearly understand the situation of party members. The management of party members and cadres is intended not only to help party members and cadres avoid making mistakes in their work, but, even more important, to educate and train party members and cadres in a manner that is appropriate to the real situation and attains real results.

It is necessary to realize that due to the role and missions of the organs at the strategic and campaign levels, the requirement with regard to party members and cadres, especially high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres, with regard both ability and moral quality, are very high. Party members who are high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres must incessantly strive to attain the norms regarding the ability and moral quality of party members and cadres that were set forth by the resolution of the Fifth Party Congress. The basic party organizations in the organs must also apply those general standards to the special characteristics of the political mission and the situation of the corps of party members and cadres in the organs, in order to set forth specific requirements for the training of party members and the continually improve the quality of party members who are high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres, and their ability to promptly fulfill missions. For example, with regard to ability, party members who are cadres at strategic organs must be skilled sector-leading specialists. Only thereby can they help the commanders manage the work of the army and the unit. They must be skilled not only with regard to the organization of implementation but also have specialized ability in the work for which they are responsible, so that they can serve as effective staff members for the commanders and recommend policies of a strategic stature which can transform the situation. To do so, they must not only have a high degree of military knowledge and ability, and have both general knowledge and deep and broad specialized knowledge, but also have a strong sense of political responsibility and strong revolutionary moral qualities, such as bravery, loyalty, impartiality, respect for the truth, daring to think and speak, not

being indulgent or reserved, etc. Only with such qualities can party members who are high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres in the organs dare look directly at the situation and set forth plans, and help the commanders weigh, compare, and select the optimal, most effective plans.

Thus it is clear that cultivating the ability and moral quality of the party members in organs at the strategic and campaign levels are very demanding requirements. The party committee echelons must cooperate closely with the commanders and political organs in drafting contents and plans and carry them out by means of many practical measures. It is necessary to pay all-out attention to preliminary and final recapitulations of experience and having cadres and party members go to the units and battlefields. The basic party organizations must closely lead the study of party members, accompanied by the strict maintenance of party days, the system of reviewing the qualifications of party members, the system of self-criticism and criticism, and the system of the masses criticizing the party members.

3. Strengthen organization, improve the quality of activities, and strictly implement the principle of democratic centralism.

The strategic and campaign organs have many missions. Many cadres are party committee members who work away for long periods of time. Many cadres and party members must remain with the units and on the battlefield, or are assigned to the units for long periods of time. Therefore, the basic party committees and the party chapter committees do not have enough people, which considerably affects the leadership role of the party organizations. In building basic party organizations in the organs, strengthening the party committees must continually be posed to ensure that they have a majority and can operate continually. If that is to be accomplished, discussions must be held between the party commanders and the commanders to reach agreement on the assignment of cadres, combine the specialized work with the leadership work to ensure the fulfillment of the organs' missions and maintain the leadership organization. Furthermore, the meetings of the party committees must be extremely flexible and concentrate on the principal contents so that leadership can be timely and not be bureaucratic and formalistic, which wastes time and influences the fulfillment of specialized missions and the quality of activities.

In the organs, the basic party organizations do not have full-time secretaries. In fact, most of the party committee and party chapter secretaries are also the heads or deputy heads of departments or bureaus of the organs. Secretaries are people who are in charge of the party work. If their working method in the organ is not scientific and rational, and their party consciousness is not high, the secretaries tend to neglect the party work because they are fully occupied with their specialized work. Therefore, in the organs, the selection of party secretaries who have prestige and ability, and know how to combine their specialized work with their leadership work, is a very important matter. But at the same time it is also necessary to create conditions for the secretaries to operate. Experience has shown that in the case of secretaries who are in charge of specialized work there must be a deputy secretary or standing committee member who has much time to enter

deeply into the party work, to assist the secretary and replace him when necessary.

The strengthening of party committees must be accompanied by improving the quality of their activities, for the quality of activities exerts a very great effect on the quality of leadership. On the basis of firmly grasping the requirements of party activities, it is necessary to increase their combativeness, strengthen their education and leadership functions, and apply them to the characteristics and missions of the organs to appropriately guide activities. Party activities must concentrate on leadership discussions to victoriously fulfill the central missions of the organ during each period of time, enter deeply into viewpoints and thoughts, and determine struggle directions for each person in the specialized work and in the mass leadership work. Therefore, in the case of regular monthly and quarterly leadership activities truly meticulous preparations must be made with regard to contents, they must have a central focus, and they must attain unanimity with regard to viewpoints, and guidance thoughts. So that the basic party organizations can fulfill their missions well, the organ heads must create conditions for the party committees to firmly grasp the situation of the organ in all regards and the missions assigned by the upper echelon. They must enable the party committees to grasp matters that must be fully understood in the implementation process, estimates of advantages and difficulties when carrying out tasks, and the abilities, work styles, strengths, and weaknesses of party members, cadres, and personnel who are assigned key responsibilities in the implementation of missions. Experience shows that the continuous exchange of opinions between the organ head and the secretary or the standing committee on the contents of the specialized work and the leadership work is very essential and useful, and create conditions for unifying thought in the party committee and throughout the organ.

In addition to strengthening organization, improving the quality of activities and the organization of basic party organizations in the organs must receive attention in the strict implementation of the principle of democratic centralism and strengthen internal solidarity in the organs, especially solidarity between the party management cadres and the governmental administrations. That is also an important content in building basic party organizations in the organs.

Organs at the strategic and campaign levels, as everyone knows, have high concentrations of high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres. They are extremely valuable capital. If the role, position, talent, experience, and contributions of those party members and cadres are fully brought into play, all missions of the organ, no matter how difficult, can be overcome, and all tasks regarding the building of organs and basic party organizations, no matter how demanding, can be carried out. A matter of decisive significance is that is the strict implementation of the principle of democratic centralism, to fully exploit the intelligence, knowledge, and contributions of the party members and create a high degree of solidarity and unanimity with regard to knowledge, thought, and action, and bring into play the combined strength of both the organ and the party organization and of both the party committee and the cadres, party members, and masses in the organ.

The implementation of the principle of democratic centralism in organs at the strategic and campaign levels has an extremely important significance because the organ not only has the function of organizing implementation but also has staff and research functions. They must encourage the cadres and party members to enquire, think, and present many new opinions, even opinions that differ from the current policy, and recommend new policies. But that is in the study phase, and while something is still under study and the upper echelon has not yet reached a decision, it is absolutely forbidden to express opinions or propagandize one's own views or reveal the thoughts and intentions of the upper echelon. Therefore, the requirements regarding principle and party nature are very demanding. Everyone must be creative in studying and recommending matters, while at the same time respecting to the maximum the principle of speaking, writing, and working in accordance with the lines and viewpoints of the Party and with the directives and orders of the upper echelon and the commander directly in charge, and absolutely must not be liberal or arbitrary.

In the study process, the party members and cadres, whether they are people in charge or upper-echelon cadres, must be very objective and scientific, modestly listen to opinions, including opposing ones, and from different views from many directions help the commander select the most rational, valuable opinions, and not be vengeful or, because of differing opinions, be cliquish and evaluate party members and cadres incorrectly, which affects democracy and internal solidarity.

In building pure, strong basic party organizations in organs at the strategic and campaign levels, there are many contents which must continue to be studied, experimented with, and recapitulated. The experiences which the basic party organizations of the General Staff organs have preliminarily recapitulated are only the major experiences and are still in the initial phase.

In addition to the rich contents which will be recapitulated in the other strategic-level and campaign-level organs throughout the army, it is certain that the contents of building pure and strong basic party organizations in the organs will be more complete and will contribute positively to developing the role of organs in which there are concentrated many high-ranking and middle-ranking cadres, with regard to our army's great development, combat, and combat readiness missions at present.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

NATIONAL DEFENSE PLANNING AT DISTRICT LEVEL DISCUSSED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Oct 85 pp 54-63

[Article by Col Nguyen Phuc Thuc: "National Defense Planning at the District Level"]

[Text]

I. Some Common Problems in Drafting National Defense Plans at the District Level

The districts play a very important role politically, economically, and militarily in the socialist revolution. The resolutions of the fourth and fifth party congresses affirmed the extremely important role of the districts in economic-social development strategy and in consolidating our country's national defense. They clearly determined that the district is the sphere for reorganizing production and organizing and redistributing labor. They are strongpoints for carrying out the three revolutions and creating the new regime, the new economy, the new culture, and the new man in the rural areas. They are places which exercise the mastership right of the local people, and are the echelon which ensures the material and cultural lives of the people. On that basis, our Party has adopted a number of policies: transforming the district, which had been an administrative management echelon, into an administrative, political, economic, social, and national defense management echelon, a budgetary echelon, and a planning echelon, and developing the districts along the lines of combining agriculture and industry (or forestry, agriculture, and industry or fishing, agriculture, and industry), and into military bastions.

The resolutions of the third and sixth plenums of the Party Central Committee, fifth term, and Resolution 5 of the Council of Ministers further concretized the positions and functions of the district echelon and the contents of building and strengthening the district echelon, among which over-all economic-social planning is an important factor in opening the way for tasks to come.

In the process of the trial implementation of over-all district planning in a number of selected districts at the end of 1978, and its extension to the present 65 districts, we may isolate the following matters:

1. Over-all economic-social planning at the district level must manifest the combination of the two strategic missions: building socialism and defending the socialist Fatherland in the sphere of the district. Therefore, it is essential that national defense planning contents be included in over-all economic-social planning in the districts.

Over-all economic-social planning is a combined project, a synthesis which includes scientific research of all economic-social sectors, in order to concretize the viewpoints and lines of the party with regard to economic zoning, the distribution of labor, the determination of development directions of the economic-social sectors, etc., in accordance with a common strategic plan encompassing both economics and national defense. Because of that combined nature of planning, when drafting their plans the economic-social sectors must manifest the two strategic missions and the viewpoint of combining economics with national defense.

2. To ensure that plans have high quality, manifest balance among the sectors, and do a good job of combining the two strategic missions, combining the economy with national defense, the central level with the local level, sectors with territorial units, etc., the plans must be drafted simultaneously. During the same period, the sectors must carry out that task, study, and reach conclusions, and absolutely must not carry out those tasks at different times and think about drafting plans for the social and national defense sectors only after drafting their economic plans. Only thereby can over-all economic-social planning by the district echelon have a solid, comprehensive, long-range basis and serve as the basis on which to draft local annual and 5-year development plans.

3. In the initial phase of the great undertaking of building socialism, good economic-social planning at the district level is very important. It is the first link and must be carried out urgently and completely. The good performance of the planning task will have an extremely important significance with regard to the exploitation of all potential of the districts, to the rational use of labor and land, to the development of sectors and trades, to setting up and consolidating new production relations, and to building districts that are strong with regard to both economics and national defense. Furthermore, only if there is good over-all planning at the district level can there be a strong foundation for good planning by the provinces and municipalities and for over-all national planning. The Council of Ministers has issued a directive stipulating that in 1985 the districts must urgently complete over-all economic-social plans and plans for each sector in the sphere of the district.

With regard to national defense, for many years now we have drafted national defense plans in many districts, and since 1983 have expanded that practice nationwide. That is still a new subject for the local military organs and must be carried out in close combination with over-all economic-social planning in the districts.

The experiences of districts which have served as test locations show that in order to do a good job of drafting national defense plans it is first of all necessary to unify knowledge with regard to the role, missions, and

requirements of national defense planning in the sphere of the district. On that basis, it is necessary to clearly stipulate the contents of national defense plans in order to have correct directions for achieving balance and harmony between national defense plans and the plans of other sectors in the over-all economic-social plans.

The position and missions of national defense planning.

National defense at the local level is a very important sphere of social activity in order to contribute to fulfilling the two strategic missions of the revolution. It is organically related to all other economic-social sectors in the localities. As we all know, the source and basis of national defense by all the people is the all-round strength of the nation, strength which is created on the basis of the political, economic, cultural, social, scientific-technical, and military accomplishments in the process of building socialism in each locality and throughout our nation. Therefore, building national defense by all the people in the localities is in fact the truly good combination of economics with national defense and the creation and accumulation of all kinds of potential for national defense from the all-round strength of the localities. Preparations must be made so that the localities can bring into play the greatest possible military strength and by means of their own strength defeat the multifaceted war of destruction in the localities, whether fighting independently or in coordination with main-force troops, in order to solidly defend the localities and effectively aid the front and the other localities, contribute to, along with the entire nation, defeating any war of aggression waged by aggressor troops, no matter what its scale, should they start such a war, and contribute, along with the entire nation, to solidly defending the socialist Fatherland. Therefore, when drafting district national defense plans it is necessary to closely combine them with economic-social plans, and regard national defense plans in the sphere of the district as a very important part of the district's over-all economic-social plans.

The national defense plans must be based on the military line and military strategy of the Party in war to defend the Fatherland, the political-economic and military missions of the localities, the basic operational and defensive plans to defend the district, of the economic-social development direction and mission of the locality and all aspects of the actual situation in the locality.

The mission of national defense planning is to clearly determine the long-range missions, objectives, and directions of building national defense by all the people in the locality, enter deeply into such aspects as strengthening the local people's war status, building up the local people's war status, building up the local people's armed forces, building the on-the-spot material-technical and rear services bases, and clearly determine the requirement of national defense with regard to the above-mentioned aspects, in order to create a good basis on which the economic-technical sectors can combine economics with national defense in drafting their sector's plan.

The requirements of national defense planning.

In order to fulfill the above-mentioned missions, when drafting national defense plans it is necessary to rely solidly on the following basis.

1. Full understanding of our country's situation, and grasping the military, political, and economic situation and missions of the district in order to correctly resolve the requirements of national defense and the economy.

Our country is at present in a situation of both being at peace and having to cope with a multifaceted war of destruction and a border encroachment war waged by the enemy, while at the same time having to be prepared to resist a large-scale war of aggression should the enemy start one. Therefore, the Fifth Party Congress determined that our people had to endeavor to fulfill two strategic missions: successfully building socialism and solidly defending the socialist Vietnamese Fatherland. Those are common missions for the nation as a whole. But with regard to specifics, because each locality and district occupies a different position in the over-all national battlefield position, and has different political, economic, and military positions, the priority given to the development and protection missions, to the economy and national defense, also differs. For example, in the districts located on the northern border, which directly confront the enemy, must every day react vigorously against the armed encroachment and sabotage activities of the enemy, it is of course necessary to make the national defense mission and the combat readiness and combat missions the priority missions. At the same time, the production and development missions are also very important.

The districts in the localities in the rear echelon and the rear areas must make the missions of producing and building socialism the foremost missions, with the national defense and security missions also being very important.

2. On the basis of the basic operational and defensive plans there must be set national defense requirements that are appropriate to the developmental capabilities of the local economy.

National defense is very intimately related to war to defend the Fatherland and is oriented toward the requirements of war to defend the Fatherland, in order to build up national defense and make national defense preparations in all regards, to ensure that we win victory from the very beginning of the war. Because we are building up national defense before we are at war, we must correctly resolve the relationship between the mission of preacetime economic development and preparing for war, in which most of the districts, especially those in the rear, must place the economic mission in the forefront. There are also some other possible plans in the different strategic circumstances, so that when the situation changes we can take the initiative in reorienting the existing plans (the expansion of the enemy's border encroachment war differs from a stable situation and is far different from the appearance of a large-scale war of aggression). That is true with regard to national defense planning specifically and all-round economic-social planning in general.

National defense planning must of course be based above all on intention to fight to defend the locality. The contingency of fighting enemy troops launching a large-scale aggressive attack in the sphere of a province or district must be made the basis for creating national defense deployment that

is tied in with economic deployment and the defense of the economy in wartime, and at the same time must be tied in with the mission of opposing the multifaceted war of destruction and the border encroachment war being waged by the enemy, the maintenance of political security, order, and social safety, defend our sovereignty, land, seas, and air space, defend our government, and defend all accomplishments of our people's development before there is a large-scale war.

The district is part of the territory of a province and is situated in a large national economic area. The district's defensive plan and its economic-social development plan are both included in the provincial plan. The drafting of district national defense plans must be based on the provincial defensive plans, in order to correctly define the position of the district in provincial (or municipal) defensive plan, and in order to clearly realize the capabilities of the upper echelon, and alliance relationships with the neighboring districts. On that basis, conditions must be created and prepared for receiving and bringing into play aid from the upper echelon.

War and economics have their own laws, which must be cleverly applied when drafting national defense plans. We must not, because of national defense requirements, ignore economic laws. On the contrary, it is necessary to obey economic laws and create conditions for the economy to develop solidly on the foundation of the national defense material-technical bases.

3. National defense plans must be comprehensive and balanced and have appropriate emphasis.

The strength of our national defense is combined political, morale, economic, cultural, social, scientific-technical, and military strength, not military strength alone. Therefore, in national defense planning it is necessary to deal with all aspects in a balanced manner, but to concentrate on such central concerns as planning the building of battlefield positions, deployment of combat forces that is integrated with economic deployment, the distribution population and labor, and planning the building up of local people's armed forces and the building of material-technical and rear services bases. The central focal points are the key national defense and economic areas. So that the plans can become reality, after determining the long-range national defense objectives and directives it is necessary to grasp the immediate political missions of the locality, and the capabilities and requirements of the economy in order to determine appropriate paths of advance and ensure the attainment of the economic-social goals set by the Fifth Party Congress.

In addition to those three requirements, it is also necessary to fully understand the viewpoint that building and consolidating national defense is a mission of the entire Party, population, and army, and of the entire proletarian dictatorship system, under the centralized leadership of the Party. It is necessary to fully understand the slogans of combining sectors with territorial units, of the central and local echelons working together, and of the state and people working together. The military organs must play the role of serving as staffs for the party committee echelons, take the initiative in coordinating with the sectors, and use the local armed forces to

play an assault role in production and the development of the battlefield status of local people's war.

II. Principal Contents of National Defense Planning

As stated above, national defense plans have many contents which encompass all aspects of making preparations so that the localities can do a good job of fulfilling their military missions at present and in a future large-scale war to defend the Fatherland, should one break out. It is necessary to concentrate on the following principal contents:

1. Planning the creation of a dominant battlefield position of local people's war.

The dominant battlefield position of people's war in the sphere of the district is one of the entire population fighting the enemy, with on-the-spot armed forces serving as the hard core. It must be created in advance, prior to the outbreak of large-scale work, and be closely combined with the creation of an agricultural-industrial economic structure in the sphere of the district. That battlefield position includes the combat villages and the combat state farms and state forests, in combination with the strongpoints and strongpoint clusters of the combat units concentrated in the key areas, organized into integrated combat clusters which are parts of the over-all district military bastions and form a deployment for fighting the enemy that is both extensive and has a central focus. That battlefield deployment must ensure capability to attack the enemy strongly and promptly from the beginning of the war and throughout its course. Even if the enemy should overrun a district it can still maintain mastership and continue to fight and continuously attack the enemy's rear.

Specifically, it is necessary to concentrate on a number of principal tasks, such as:

--Determining the combat areas.

On the basis of the district's decisions regarding the organization of defense, it is necessary to determine the combat areas, including the key defensive areas that must be defended resolutely (each district has one or two key defensive areas in which the terrain has important tactical value and key objectives). Some areas attack enemy who are making encircling maneuvers, or attacking our flanks. In some areas we hold our ground and attack the enemy's rear.

--There are combat bases near the battlefield or the combat objectives.

--The rear bases areas of the districts (each district may have one or two rear base areas. The sphere of the district rear base areas may include a few villages and can rely on the rear base areas of neighboring positions to form an integrated position. In the key combat and rear area base areas, it is necessary to form alliances with the combat villages and the combat construction sites, state farms, and state forests to organize integrated combat clusters.

At present, in many districts there are a number of villages with excessively small territorial areas which are not yet appropriate to the military requirements. In the planning process it is possible to study those areas and recommend that they be adjusted. It is necessary to enable all combat villages to have appropriate main lines of resistance and depth, so that they can contain the components of a battlefield position for fighting the enemy that is both extensive and strong from the beginning and throughout.

--Forseeing the population dispersion areas. Depending on the terrain, the population dispersion areas may be in the territorial spheres of the villages and districts, or in the neighboring villages and districts.

--Deploy population and distribute labor in combination with the deployment of on-the-spot combat forces.

In order to carry out production and combat there must be people and labor forces. The combat forces of the district military bastions consist of all the people, with the local armed forces serving as the hard core. Therefore, it is necessary to study plans for deploying the population centers and calculate the number and structure of the population to ensure that there are sufficient people to organize combat militia and self-defense forces. It is necessary to ensure that each village has at least a squad or team of combat militia. In the mountains-and-jungles and high-altitude areas, when resolving the problems of fixed cultivation and habitation we should study concentrating the people in places which are important both economically and with regard to national defense.

On the basis of the nature of each combat area, combined with the economic-social clusters, we must adjust the population density and distribute labor in a manner appropriate to the requirements of production and combat. In the key military areas, such as along the border, along the coast, and on islands, it is necessary to pay attention to the quality and structure of the population, in order to purify the operational area. On the basis of the population centers we must determine the key areas in which it is necessary to concentrate on developing them into combat villages.

--Deploying the combat support, rear services-technical, and command systems.

According to the basic defensive plans, we must determine the requirements regarding the formation of on-the-spot combat support and rear services systems and the command support system, so that the economic sectors can coordinate by deploying the system of production, production service, and service bases.

When deploying positions and determining the construction scale of the material-technical bases, especially the important and large bases, it is necessary to pay attention to the requirement of both ensuring conditions that are advantageous for both industrial-style production and defense, to ensure that when war breaks out it will be possible to continue to produce and prepare evacuation and dispersion locations. The defense of electricity transformer stations and the key water conservancy installations must be

organized meticulously. The fortified positions at road intersections must be used as fighting positions when necessary.

When constructing service installations, such as clinics, schools, markets, collective housing areas of workers and cadres, etc., attention must be paid to combining economic benefit with national defense benefit, and peacetime benefit with wartime benefit. The deployment of the system of roads, bridges, post offices, and public health installations must be tied in with the mobility, command, and rear services support systems when war breaks out.

2. Plans for building up and developing the local armed forces.

Build political bases and carry out universal national defense education for the entire population.

By means of socialist transformation, the creation and perfection of the new production relations, the consolidation of cooperatives and production organizations, and the development of mass organizations in the sphere of the district, we must teach everyone to have consciousness of national defense and to clearly recognize the plots and nature of the enemy. We must build the localities' will to fight and teach local revolutionary traditions, and provide universal military training for the people with regard to fighting the enemy, defending against them, and overcoming the consequences of war. Attention must be paid to carrying out that task, first of all, in the key areas and important production bases, and among the youth forces. In areas with many ethnic minority components it is necessary to correctly implement the Party's ethnic minority policies, achieve close solidarity among the ethnic minority groups, have confidence in and cultivate the people of ethnic minority groups, the ethnic minority cadres, etc., and build solid on-the-spot political bases for local national defense strength.

--Build up militia and self-defense forces.

Based on the requirements of the basic defensive operational plans, the rate of population increase, the numbers of workers transferred out and brought in, the number of developed trades and enterprises, etc., we must determine the number of militia and self-defense forces in each combat area and throughout the district in each 3-year or 5-year phase.

With regard to quality, attention must be paid to the number and ratio of party members, Youth Union members, and demobilized military personnel, in relation to the total number of party members, Youth Union members, and demobilized military personnel in the district. In the past, when determining quality we usually only compared the ratio of party members, Youth Union members, and demobilized military personnel with the total number of militia and self-defense unit members. But in planning it is necessary to compare them to the total number of party members, Youth Union members, and demobilized military personnel in the district so that the party committee echelons and the governmental administrations can balance the leadership forces between two missions: combat and production. In the good combat villages, more than 50 percent of the party members are members of militia and self-defense units, while more than 70 percent of the youths are members of militia units. In

some villages more than 80 percent of the party members are members of militia units, while in the district as a whole the average number of party members participating in militia and self-defense units is more than 40 percent.

With regard to the organizational scale, in the mountain region villages it is necessary to organize platoons as the norms, or companies in exceptional cases. In the lowland areas, the norm is companies, with battalions being organized in exceptional cases. On the basis of the combat missions and economic organizations it is necessary to organize such specialized combat arms as sapper, engineering, communications, and naval units. The border villages should organize concentrated militia detachments. The coastal villages should organize standing detachments and national defense security detachments.

With regard to self-defense units, it is necessary to differentiate between organizational scales for the purposes of management and training in wartime and organizational scales for wartime combat. As regards weapons and equipment, there are two principal sources: supply by the upper echelon and local production capabilities, to ensure that each combatant has two or three kinds of weapons.

As for training, the contents and requirements of military, political, and specialized technical training must be appropriate to each category and combat or work missions.

Building up local troops.

According to the provincial plans, provisions must be made for organizing infantry battalions and the combat arm detachments, in order to prepare cadre teams and equipment.

Building up reserve forces and preparing for mobilization.

In accordance with provincial plans, it is necessary to draft plans to organize, manage, and train reserve forces. There must be annual mobilization plans and plans to receive military personnel who return after fulfilling their military obligations.

Building up the corps of local military cadres and detachment command cadres.

Needs must be calculated and there must be plans for elementary and refresher training, especially for village units cadres and the commanders of militia and self-defense units, by means of on-the-job study and training or in provincial military schools.

3. Planning material-technical needs.

National defense materiel and technical facilities are produced by our country. The material-technical needs of war are very great. They cannot be fully met all at once. Preparations must be made in peacetime. Especially,

it is necessary to meet the needs of defeating the enemy from the very beginning.

On the basis of the combat requirements of the initial period of a large-scale war, we must make calculations and recommend quantities that are appropriate to the capabilities of the locality and pay attention to the following sectors:

Food reserves sufficient to support the local armed forces for a certain period of time. In the key areas along the border and the coast, and islands, must have grain reserves for each village and household.

Communications and transportation. It is necessary to build, upgrade, or improve roads, bridges, and ferry landings to ensure that each district has two east-west arteries and three north-south arteries. There must be plans to prepare for the mobilization of transportation facilities of the state, the cooperatives, and private individuals (mechanized and nonmechanized).

Communications, posts and telecommunications, and radio broadcasting. Attention must be paid to ensuring that communications are rapid and stable, from the district level down to the key villages and from the district level up to the provincial level, by means of modern and primitive facilities, foot messengers, bicycles, etc.

Public health: It is necessary to develop the hospitals and clinics, calculate the number of beds needed, and organize mobile surgery units. Families must have medical pouches.

Machinery: The repair of transportation facilities and small weapons of the militia and self-defense units and the production of rudimentary weapons.

The construction of supply depots, maintenance equipment, combat trenches and shelters, and combat equipment for the militia, self-defense, and local troop units. It is necessary to determine technical standards so that the economic sectors can unify production.

4. Planning for local armed forces fulfilling economic construction missions.

The local armed forces have two missions: maintaining combat readiness and fighting to defend the locality, and participating in local economic development. On the basis of the local economic development plans, it is possible to use:

Local troops and main-force troops stationed in the border, coastal, and jungles-and-mountains areas to, along with the localities, create population centers and military villages. The squad must function as a family and have a fish pond and garden totalling one hectare. Companies must have, in addition, a pig pen, pastureland for water buffaloes and cattle, and tens of hectares of forest land. The company or battalion must become a population center. They must combine with the villages of the people to form combat villages, which receive plans from the locality regarding afforestation, forest protection,

water conservancy, hydroelectricity, road construction, the production of construction materials, or the production of grain.

Militia and self-defense forces: The militia detachments concentrated on the border, or full-time security and national defense militia units in coastal and lowland areas, forest land, and ponds to carry out production and animal husbandry. Along the coast, it is necessary to develop fishing and the catching of maritime products, and to combine fishing grounds with the battlefield.

In jungles-and-mountains areas and coastal areas which have sparse populations or are unpopulated, and on islands which are important but are unpopulated, it is possible to use militia and self-defense, in combination with youths to organize small and medium state farms and state forests, and form new population centers for production and combat.

III. Implementation Methods

We all know that national defense strength is combined political, cultural, social, scientific-technical, cultural, social, scientific-technical, and military strength. To build all-round national defense by all the people is to fulfill one of the two local strategic missions. It must be combined closely with the mission of building a socialist economy in the contents of national defense plans.

Therefore, national defense plans are projects which require much effort. It is necessary to firmly grasp the basic defensive intentions of the districts and the requirements of the upper echelon with regard to national defense. At the same time, it is necessary to thoroughly understand the local situation in all regards--natural geography, politics, economics, culture, and society--in achieving balance among the sectors and between needs and capabilities.

Those tasks can be carried out one after the other simultaneously. The villages will carry out some tasks only after the district has done so, or the district will assign the villages some missions, directions, and norms, so that they can take the initiative in drafting plans, which will then be synthesized by the district.

At present, many districts have not yet completed their national defense plans. The principal reason is that they do not yet, principally because there are no basic defensive plans or because the province has not yet assigned the province an operational plan.

A lesson learned from the test provinces is that the district should take the initiative in drafting basic defensive plans on the basis of fully understanding the defensive intentions of the province and the provincial military command. On that basis, it should take the initiative in contacting the economic-social sectors in the district and requesting the opinion of the standing committee of the district party committee, most directly of the secretary and the chairman or the deputy chairman in charge of planning, in order to draft national defense plans.

The head of the military command section directly guides the drafting of plans and the setting up of a specialized element made up of a number of operational staff, mobilization organization, militia, political, and rear services cadres. The number of such people should be held to the minimum to ensure secrecy.

National defense planning may be carried out in the form of maps, drafts, tables, charts, and computation documents. The planning of battlefield positions must be done in the form of maps, accompanied by justifications.

The drafting of national defense plans is at present an important and urgent part of the local military staff work at the district level and is an important content of the long-range development of district military bastions.

Because of the complicated problems, it is necessary to study and grasp the basic situation in all regards and make careful calculations, so time is required and they cannot be fully resolved immediately. In the process of implementing national defense planning it is necessary to adhere closely to the local economic-social sectors and discover new problems that arise in order to promptly supplement, adjust, and gradually perfect the plans.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BINH TRI THIEN STRENGTHENS NATIONAL DEFENSE AT PROVINCIAL LEVEL

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[Article by Colonel Nguyen Trong Dan: "Binh Tri Thien and the Mission of Building National Defense at the Provincial Level"]

[Text] On 30 April 1975 the South was completely liberated and our country began a new era of independence and unity and of the entire nation advancing together to socialism.

In 1976, pursuant to the policy of the Party and state, three provinces--Quang Binh, Quang Tri, and Thua Thien--were combined to form Binh Tri Thien, with an area of 17,536 square kilometers and a population of 1,814,000. Binh Tri Thien is a province which during the anti-U.S. resistance war for national resistance had to directly endure division into two parts and to bear extremely serious consequences of war. It has severe natural conditions and its natural territory is long and narrow. At one place its width, from the sea to the jungle, is not more than 50 kilometers. It confronts the enemy on Hainan Island and those who arrive from the South China Sea. To the west the borders of the three Indochinese countries meet and there converge the important transportation routes between Vietnam and Cambodia and Laos. Nearly all of the districts in the province, such as Quang Trach, Bo Trach, Le Ninh, Ben Hai, Trieu Hai, Huong Dien, Huong Phu, etc., consist of three terrain areas: the coast, the lowlands, and the jungles-and-mountains area. In past wars, the enemy often took advantage of that area to carry out strategic interdictions.

In the present enterprise of defending the socialist Fatherland, it may be said that Thua Thien is a strategic area that is both crucial and strategic and is not only both a front line and a rear area for the Fatherland but directly influences the militant alliance of the three peoples of the Indochinese Peninsula. For that reason, the requirements and missions of building the battlefield position of people's war and national defense by all the people in our locality are posing new, very important, and urgent problems in the immediate future and over a long period of time.

After the South was completely liberated, 1.2 million of the 1.8 million people in Binh Tri Thien Province were in the newly liberated area, so the organization and building up of local armed forces in the two areas differed.

In the northern province, from Ho Xa and Vinh Linh north to the former Vinh Linh, the militia and self-defense forces and the district and provincial local troops were built up and consolidated over a period of several decades of building the socialist regime and opposing the war of destruction. In the districts south of the 17th Parallel, most of the people had been forcibly concentrated by the enemy into strategic hamlets and land development areas, so the political bases and the militia and self-defense forces were very thin and weak, and in some places existed in name only. At that time the local armed forces in the districts south of the 17th Parallel included less than .5 percent of the population. Many key militia and self-defense cadres, such as village unit commanders and platoon leaders, were not yet party members. At a time when the forces protecting the revolutionary administrations in the newly liberated subwards and villages were practically nonexistent, the hundreds of thousands of puppet troops and civil servants who disintegrated on the spot, and the tens of thousands of hooligans, thugs, and prostitutes left behind by the Saigon puppet regime overflowed the hamlets, cities, and towns.

In view of that situation, the party organization and people of Binh Tri Thien soon realized that the building up and development of the revolutionary administrations had to be accompanied by their solid protection. But in order to solidly protect the basic revolutionary administrations it was necessary to continually build up and develop the people's armed forces at the basic level. It was necessary to, on the basis of creating a strong political infrastructure, develop extensive militia and self-defense forces in the subwards, villages, organs, enterprises, state forests, state farms, etc., and enable them to become sharp tools of the proletarian dictatorship to defend the local revolutionary administrations.

In order to fulfill that mission well, nearly 700 cadres engaged in local military work and thousands of cadres and men of the armed forces were sent to build up the basic level. Thus in a short period of time extensive local armed forces were organized. In areas in which we previously had no forces, militia and self-defense forces were created and developed in all subwards, villages, towns, cities, and neighborhoods. Not only in the lowland and coastal areas, but also in the remote, distant hamlets and villages in the mountain region, the militia and self-defense forces included all three force components: local combat forces, mobile forces, and forces to guide the people in evading the enemy. Now more than 9 percent of the people in the province are members of militia and self-defense forces.

Firmly grasping the slogan of simultaneously developing and consolidating, solidly consolidating as we developed, and on the basis of actual struggle experience steeling and consolidating we promptly purified our ranks and uncovered and expelled unqualified elements. Therefore, the militia and self-defense forces have continually developed and grown with regard to both numbers and quality, and can fulfill all requirements of the local political missions.

During the past 10 years the local armed forces of Binh Tri Thien have coordinated closely with the people's public security forces, the Red Flag youths, etc., remained in their areas of operation night and day, stopped and smashed the sabotage activities of the enemy, solidly protected political

security and social order in the localities, carried out 124 operations to mop up troop remnants and reactionaries operating surreptitiously, and confiscated 716 weapons of all types and 1,400 kilograms of explosives.

The provinces's local people's armed forces, which are both the hard core forces of the national defense by all the people movement in the localities and assault forces on t production labor front, during the past several years the local people's armed forces in the province have detected and detonated 7,301,841 bombs and mines, and liberated 79,300 hectares of land to facilitate production by the people. Many militia and self-defense platoons and companies have become units which lead the way in productivity at such construction sites as the Thach Han, Nam Song Huong, and Vuc Tron water conservancy projects, the Bach Ma power plant, the Long Tho Construction Materials Enterprise Federation, etc. In addition to continually being concerned with building and consolidating the militia, self-defense, local, and border defense units to create well-trained units with a high degree of combat readiness, the province has also been greatly concerned with enabling the people to study, understand, and correctly implement the state's Military Obligation Law. The youth recruitment task has been organized an carried out increasingly well and has made progress, so it has persuaded large numbers of youths to enthusiastically enlist to fulfill their obligation of defending the Fatherland.

In the past 8 years, beginning in 1978, the first year after the revolution in which the province fulfilled its youth recruitment obligation, for 7 consecutive years the province has surpassed the plan norms assigned it by the upper echelon.

With those accomplishments, the local people's armed forces in Binh Tri Thien have been worthy of receiving esteemed awards from the state and the army: the circulating flag of the chairman of the Council of State, an outstanding unit flag from the Ministry of National Defense, two first-class military merit medals, and 13 second-class and third-class military merit medals.

From the actual situation during the past several years it is possible to isolate the following lessons:

I. The Party Committee Echelons and Key Governmental Cadres at All Levels Continually Pay Attention to National Defense By All the People At the Local Level, Know How to Closely Combine Economics With National Defense and National Defense With the Economy

Building socialism and solidly defending the socialist Fatherland are two basic strategic missions of our entire party, population, and army at present. They have been life-or-death laws in our nation's defense and development over its 4,000-year history. They have an even more important political significance with regard to Binh Tri Thien Province, a province two-thirds of the territory and population of which have only recently been liberated and which occupies a strategic position. The party organization and people of Binh Tri Thien are always profoundly aware that only by building up the local people's armed forces and continually being concerned with building and consolidating strong national defense by all the people can all

accomplishments of the revolution be solidly defended and the entire nation advance to the successful building of socialism. They are also a great revolutionary enterprise of the party, people, and armed forces in the province in the new revolutionary phase. That enterprise can be strong only when it is truly based on increasingly developed and consolidated political, economic, military, and cultural-social strength and on the mechanism of the Party leading, the governmental administration organizing implementation, continually bringing into play the collective mastership right of the laboring masses, and victoriously carrying out the three revolutions in the localities. The party organization and party committees from the provincial and district levels down to the the subward and village levels, especially the leadership cadres of the leadership of the Party and governmental administration in the locality, were truly concerned and directly led national defense by all the people in the locality. They set forth specialized resolutions and specific policies and work methods regarding the direction and missions of organizing and building forces, consolidating national defense by all the people, and building a strong battlefield position of people's war in the villages, subwards, towns, and districts. Furthermore, the governmental administrations at all levels, on the basis of the leadership resolutions of the party committees at their echelon and the directives of the upper echelon, drafted plans and organized the sectors and professional organs to implement them. One of the most important tasks receiving constant attention by the local party committees was the training, cultivation, and continual perfecting of the corps of local military cadres and improving the quality of local military organs at all echelons. The party committees assigned capable, experienced cadres to assume direct responsibility for the district, city, town, subward, and village military commanders and for the militia and self-defense company and platoon commanders.

They paid attention to both building up the corps of cadres and building up and improving the quality of the basic-level units, especially the mobile combat militia and self-defense squads, platoons, and companies. The party committees selected party members and members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union to supplement and strengthen the hard-core forces in the militia and self-defense ranks, and enable the basic detachments to have both appropriate forces high high combat quality.

A valuable advantage was that practically all key leadership cadres of the Party and the sectors of the local governmental administration who directly lead and command combat were steeled and matured in wars against France and the United States, so they are very concerned with and responsive toward the mission of building and consolidating national defense by all the people in the locality. A specific example is that at present the standing committee of the provincial party committee and the party committees of many district party committees hold regular meetings to discuss the security-national defense situation. Therefore, the party committees and governmental administrations at all levels have promptly grasped the situation and directly issued directives and resolutions to guide struggle measures to effectively defeat the activities of the multifaceted war of destruction waged by the enemy.

The actual situation during the past several years affirms that in places in which the party committees and governmental administrations are continually

concerned with building up and consolidating national defense by all the people in the locality, and closely combine the economy with national defense and national defense with the economy, such as the villages of Trieu Thuong, Trieu Ai, Quang Phuoc, and Thuy Duong, and such districts as Le Ninh, Ben Hai, Trieu Hai, Huong Phu, etc., the militia and self-defense forces are strongly developed, the villages have a high degree of combat leadership, the purity of society's political security has been ensured, and won brilliant victories on the economic and cultural-social fronts. The militia and self-defense forces those in the localities are hard-core, assault forces on the agricultural front. Along with the people, they have introduced technical advances in order to increase rice annual yields from 2.5 tons per hectare. They are also hard-core forces which lead the way in creating the new-culture family and the new man in the rural areas.

II. Correctly Implement the Slogan, "The State and the People Work Together, the Districts and the Basic Level Work Together"

Building up the battlefield position of people's war at the local level is a great revolutionary undertaking of the masses. Only if it is truly for the people and carried out by the people can it achieve victory. Under the condition of many difficulties still being encountered in production and life in our country, relying on the people to build and develop the people's armed forces, especially in order to increase the fighting strength of the local armed forces in all regards in an active manner, without being inactive, depending on others, or passively relying on distributions from the upper echelon, is an extremely necessary task. Fully understanding the slogans, "The state and the people work together" and "The district and the local people work together," during the past several years Binh Tri Thien has continually stepped up education, campaigned for the masses to exercise their collective mastership right, and clearly realized the responsibility and obligation of the party members, cadres, workers, civil servants, and citizens to positively participate in building and consolidating national defense. Because party members and Youth Union members were taught consciousness of revolutionary ideals so that they could clearly understand their vanguard position--"Party members take the lead, the nation follows behind"--and because of clever arousal of the ardent patriotic tradition of the local area, the laboring masses and the sectors and echelons positively responded to many movements for the entire population to participate in building up national defense at the local level, with many rich, lively forms, such as the "national defense grain," "national defense labor," "national defense trees," "Money for the national defense fund," "The mainland aids the islands," and other movements, which have continually strengthened the local national defense potential in all regards. An outstanding feature of the movement for all the people to participate in strengthening national defense in the locality is that the people have not only voluntarily contributed to developing their villages but also to developing a strong rear area. For example, in the "The mainland aids the islands" movement the people contributed more than 5 million dong to, along with the state, build combat installations on Con Dao Island to ensure readiness to defeat the enemy should they commit aggression.

Because of correct guidance slogans and good educational and proselytizing measures, in 1984 the people of Binh Tri Thien voluntarily contributed to the local national defense fund more than 400 tons of grain and 8.65 million dong (including 5 million dong to build material bases on Con Co Island), 3,326,632 and work days, constructed six district-level arms depots and 80 arms depots in the villages, planted 250 million trees to provide ground cover for 33,000 hectares of hilly and mountainous land, and contributed tens of thousands of bamboos and logs to build coastal defense lines.

In addition to positively contributing funds to building the defense lines and organizing movements to assist the local armed forces in training, maintaining combat readiness, patrolling, guarding, building warehouses, preparing combat materiel, etc., the party organization and people of Binh Tri Thien also paid attention to educating and proselytizing the people to do a good job of fulfilling the army's rear services policy.

The movement to pay a debt of gratitude to the families of war dead and disabled veterans, and those with merit toward the revolution, and to help the headless families of troops is being implemented more and more broadly. The people have voluntarily collected each brick and tile, contributed money and rice to build eight cemeteries for war dead in the districts and 116 village war cemeteries, and contributed more than 5 million dong, 1,500 cotton blankets, tens of thousands of wash cloths, and thousands of uniforms as gifts to soldiers at the front.

Especially, in order to be prepared to cope with all contingencies of the enemy's war of aggression the people of the subwards, villages, towns, cities, state farms, state forests, enterprises, etc., on the basis of local defensive plans approved by the upper echelon voluntarily contributed money and rice, encouraged the militia and self-defense forces to compete in training and maneuvers, and to hold military seminars to continually refine and promptly supplement and perfect the combat plans. The people have also sought to obtain all necessary conditions and endeavored to develop the local national defense potential in all regards such as by competing in the production of grain, expanding animal husbandry stations and farms, organizing the redistribution of population, creating sources of construction, materials, repairing roads connecting villages with the district, developing the mass information-culture sector, etc., in order to both practically serve the daily lives of the people and prepare on-the-spot rear services sources and all aspects of wartime combat support.

Clearly, those initial accomplishments by the people of Binh Tri Thien are not yet very great, but it can be affirmed that that is a correct course and has created a good political movement among the masses in the enterprise of strengthening national defense by all people at the local level.

III. Local Military Organs at All Levels Are Both Staff Organs for the Party Committees and Centers for Organizing Dynamic, Effective Coordination with the Sectors and Echelons

In order to fulfill their function of serving as staff organs for the local party committees, the military command organs from the village level up to the

district and provincial levels, on the basis of the directives and orders of the upper echelon, and also on the basis of the party committees at those levels, study and recommend plans and missions regarding the organization and building of forces, the building up of the people's war battlefield position in the villages and the creation of district military bastions, plan training and combat exercises to defend the locality, organize evasion by the people and civil defense, etc. Those plans must both fully manifest the missions and combat intentions of the upper echelon command and guidance organ and be appropriate to the requirements of the combat missions and the localities' capabilities for providing all kinds of support. Therefore, the provincial and district military command organs continually organized training classes to supplement the professional knowledge of the cadres and specialized personnel so that they can have sufficient knowledge to enter deeply into their work, while at the same time having the necessary knowledge of the economic, political, and cultural-social aspects of the localities, and truly becoming effective military specialists for the party committees.

The local military organs at all levels are also centers for managing the organization and building of forces, and the command and combat readiness of the local armed forces. At present, a matter of foremost importance in training at the local level is the concentration of all capabilities to improve the quality of training of basic units and the command cadres of the basic detachments, in order to ensure that the militia-self defense forces have a sufficient level of combat readiness, that the local district and provincial troops, and the border defense troops, can capable of fighting in the districts and provinces and be prepared to move around in accordance with the regional operational plan of the Military Region, and the militant alliance with the fraternal nations of Laos and Cambodia, which share borders with Binh Tri Thien. The General Staff has included the organization of combat readiness training by the local armed forces in the basic annual training. We must go all-out to carry it out in a manner appropriate to the locality. The combat readiness training of militia and self-defense forces is based primarily on the seasonal production schedule and attains increasingly higher quality by close combination with production labor. With regard to Binh Tri Thien, a province with rather severe weather and climate, in order to improve the quality of combat training of the local armed forces an continually be concerned with strengthening all aspects of national defense by all the people and the local military organs at all echelons, especially the district and provincial echelons, it is necessary to continually monitor the basic level, have plans for carrying out the organization and training plans and contents, with selected emphasis, and take steps to exercise close supervision and consolidate as it builds.

In addition to their functions of serving as effective staffs for the party committee echelons and as centers for organizing and managing the command and combat readiness training of the local armed forces, the local military organs at the village, district, and provincial levels are also centers for organizing coordination with regard to all local military tasks and national defense by all the people at the local level. The actual situation has clearly shown that once the party committee has issued a resolution and the governmental organs at all levels have plans for organizing its implementation, it is necessary to mobilize and manage joint participation by

the forces of all sectors and echelons. So that all activities of national defense by all the people at the local level can be carried out harmoniously and completely, and with real effectiveness, the local military organs must be truly dynamic centers for organizing coordination. They must have truly scientific plans, have measures or supervising and overseeing, and make truly accurate, objective evaluations. Especially, they must have a division of labor and decentralization in organizing the implementation and management of each specific content for each sector and echelon. It is necessary to avoid the situations of the lower echelon being passive and relying on the upper echelon, of the upper echelon gives a blank check to the lower echelon, or of the sectors thinking that that is a professional task of the local military command organs and having a half-hearted attitude toward carrying it out. One of the matters worthy of attention in organizing coordination at present is the organizing of training and trial excercises by the sectors and echelons in all districts, cities, and zones, and by a number of key sectors at the provincial level. By means of trial exercises (with or without actual troops) and experimental excercises guided by the Military Region and the upper echelon, the province has promptly recapitulated and isolated experiences to supplement the transfer of forces, combat facilities, and materiel and technical equipment of the economic sectors to serve the combat missions, the organization and composition of mobilized reserve forces, the organization of the combat command system, coordination of combat by the forces, etc., in order to continually perfect the district and provincial operational plans.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

PEOPLE'S WAR AGAINST CHINESE AGGRESSION DISCUSSED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Oct 85, pp 1-11

[Article by Trung Dung: "People's War To Defend the Fatherland and Defeat the Border Encroachment War"]

[Text] As everyone knows, since April 1984 the reactionary Beijing clique has used an important part of its main-force troops to wage a border encroachment war along our northern border, with concentration in the Vi Xuyen area of Ha Tuyen Province. Their goals are to gradually nibble away at our territory, combine that activity with a multifaceted war of destruction to weaken us economically, politically, militarily, and socially, prevent us from concentrating our forces on building socialism, restrict us in carrying out our international obligation toward the Cambodian and Laotian revolutions, etc.

Our soldiers and people in Ha Tuyen have fought heroically, fiercely fought and stopped the cruel attacks of the Chinese aggressor troops, and resolutely defeated those new, extremely serious escalation steps by the enemy. The initial battles fought by our soldiers and people, because of the development of the enemy's aggressive attacks, gradually gave form to a people's war to defend the Fatherland against the enemy's border encroachment war, in order to maintain the Fatherland's frontiers, defend our territorial integrity and national sovereignty, and defend the great undertaking of peaceful labor to build socialism throughout the nation.

With a strong spirit of vigilance and a high level of combat readiness, our soldiers and people promptly struck the enemy with well-deserved blows and won initial victories that were very important in many respects.

Large numbers of the enemy were annihilated and many of the enemy's war facilities were destroyed. As of the end of 1985 we had killed or knocked out of action 17,500 of the enemy, inflicted heavy casualties on 33 battalions and two regiments, destroyed more than 400 artillery pieces and mortars, and destroyed more than 200 military vehicles and many of their supply depots and war facilities.

We promptly gained experience and gradually created appropriate fighting methods, attained high combat effectiveness, began to defeat a number of

important operational measures of the enemy, and created prospects for completely defeating their operational measure in their border encroachment war. We stopped and pushed back hundreds of encroachment attacks by Chinese aggressor troops and defended our territory. We attacked and retook a number of locations they had taken in our country and were illegally occupying. We created a position of moving up close to and interspersing our positions with theirs in order to continually threaten the enemy and force them to become bogged down and always be on the defensive. We promptly and effectively retaliated against artillery shelling, captured in their entirety many groups of spies and commandos who had surreptitiously infiltrated our country, etc.

The soldiers and people of Ha Tuyen, as well as the soldiers and people of the northern border provinces, learned new, very valuable lessons, continually improved the battlefield position of people's war, fought victoriously and maintained a high degree of combat readiness, and at the same time continued to strengthen the localities defensively and economically in order to fulfill all missions of the districts and provinces on the Fatherland's border defense line.

Our soldiers and people all over the nation have aided positively and more and more strongly the combat of the soldiers and people in the northern border provinces as well as the combat on the battlefields of neighboring countries, while concentrating their forces on the foremost mission:

In addition to the victory of the struggle against the war of destruction we took a step toward defeating the basic plot of the enemy: weakening us in order to annex our country and forcing us to enter their orbit. The Vietnamese revolution in our country as a whole and in the northern border provinces has not only not weakened, as the enemy hoped it would, but has continually developed and has become stronger than ever, and is being further steeled and challenged in new, very fierce fighting with the enemy.

In the course of the fighting we have gained clearer understanding of the enemy's plots, schemes, operational measures, strengths, weaknesses, and actual capabilities. That was a very important result which has helped us continue to accurately study and evaluate the enemy and determine correct policies and creative fighting methods in order to completely defeat the enemy troops.

Our victory on the northern border, combined with the victories of the Cambodian people, the Laotian people, and the people of the three Indochinese people on the battlefield, along with the political, diplomatic, and economic development victories, have brought about a new advance in the process of defeating the aggressive and sabotage plots of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists against the three Indochinese countries. Beijing continually threatens to "teach Vietnam a second lesson," but in fact it has been defeated militarily on the battlefield and has been restricted in many respects domestically and internationally, so it cannot do so in a situation that is very difficult for it. Our great victory has created a new strategic situation that is very favorable for the continued development of the three nations' socialist revolutions and opens up prospects for stabilizing the situation in the region.

However, our very important recent victory on the northern border was only the first step. Beijing still has not abandoned its hostile policy of opposing and attacking the revolution in our country and the revolutions in all three Indochinese countries. Furthermore, they are still obstinately occupying a number of our positions on the northern border. During the coming period they may continue to wage the encroachment war on a larger scale and at a greater intensity, and may expand their attacks to a number of other areas along the border. At the same time, they may use their air force to attack a number of targets, use their air force to cause trouble at sea or raid some of our islands, etc. At the same time, they are continuing to prepare to wage a large-scale war of aggression when they think they have the opportunity to do so.

Therefore, our soldiers and people must continue to keep up their guard and closely monitor the development of the plots and acts of the enemy. Furthermore, it is necessary to study the political and military lines of the Party in order to understand them more fully, and firmly grasp the line of people's war to defend the homeland and the line of building up national defense by all the people, in order to creatively apply them to the mission of defeating the enemy's border encroachment war, while at the same time building up the border provinces, strengthening the nation with regard to both national defense and economics, and being prepared to respond victoriously if the enemy start a large-scale war of aggression.

People's war to defeat the war of encroachment is a type of people's war to defend the Fatherland. It conforms to the common laws of people's war and has its own characteristics. It is a just, self-defense revolutionary war against aggression to defeat the enemy in their encroachment war to defend the Fatherland. It is all-round, modern, allied war by all the people. It is necessary to annihilate and wear down the enemy manpower, destroy many of their war facilities, defend the integrity of the Fatherland's territory and frontiers, defend our national sovereignty, defend the lives and property of the people, defend the great undertaking of labor to construct socialism nationwide, territorial expansion plot of the enemy and their other plots. At the same time, we have steeled our troops and people, completed our battlefield position, and prepared conditions for defeating a large-scale war of aggression.

People's war against the encroachment war must manifest the strategic guidance thoughts and directions regarding the organization and preparation of forces and the waging of people's war to defend the Fatherland. That means that people's war against the encroachment war must manifest the strategic thought of achieving mastery and attacking, and attacking and achieving mastery, on the front line of the Fatherland. It must fully bring into play the combined strength of people's war and combine the military, political, economic, and diplomatic forces and struggle fronts. It must combine the two war-waging modes, combine the activities of the various kinds of troops, combine combat with military proselytizing and enemy proselytizing and propagandizing the people in China who live on the other side of the border, etc.

The special characteristics of people's war against the border encroachment poses many problems that must be studied and properly resolved in actual activities in order to win victory.

People's war against the border encroachment war is waged against the background of our nation both being at peace and having to wage war (against the multifaceted war of destruction and the border encroachment, and to fulfill our international obligations), while at the same time being prepared to fight and preparing to cope with a large-scale war of aggression. Our country is generally at peace but the warfare is also very difficult and fierce.

War is being waged in the situation of our people endeavoring to rebuild their nation after several continuous decades of war. Our country's economy is gradually undergoing a good transformation and recently has achieved encouraging accomplishments which are sources of pride, but still has very great difficulties. We must both ensure stability and gradually improve the living conditions of the people, and meet the requirements of the enterprise of defending the Fatherland and build the material bases of socialism.

The enemy's encroachment war is limited in nature with regard to goals, space, and forces, so our people's war against it is not yet a large-scale war and it is not yet necessary to mobilize the forces of the entire nation, but that does not mean that it does not exert a certain effect on the entire nation.

With regard to combat, there are also characteristics which must be studied, such as a limited war-waging space; the area of the war being waged in the jungles-and-mountains region, with sparse population, and undeveloped economic, social, and transportation bases are not yet developed; the forces used being limited primarily to some ground forces combat arms (in certain circumstances the air force and navy may be used); the enemy and ourselves continually being in a situation of direct contact and of "comb teeth" positions; the course of combat sometimes heating up and sometimes cooling off; and the enemy perhaps not limiting themselves to border encroachments to a key area, as at present, but expanding that key area, creating a number of other combat areas, or under certain specific conditions perhaps developing into a large-scale war of aggression, etc.

The special characteristics mentioned above pose many complicated problems which we must study and resolve, such as grasping the enemy's situation, correctly predicting the plots, schemes, and capabilities of the enemy; maintaining the long-range fighting ability and combat-readiness of the on-the-spot troops and people; forces and applying the fighting methods; mobilizing aid from the rear echelon and the strategic rear area, etc.

The most important matter is enabling everyone to clearly realize that defeating the border encroachment war is an extremely important immediate mission of our country's revolution and a mission of the entire army and population. It is not a mission of the soldiers and people of the border provinces alone, and is even less the exclusive mission of the armed forces, but is a mission of the main-force troops, the local troops, the border defense troops, the militia and self-defense forces, the people's public security forces, the people of the ethnic minority groups in the border area, and the people of the entire nation. Of course, the missions assigned to each

locality, each type of troops, etc., in the specific situations, are not identical to those in a situation of large-scale war.

The resolution of the Fifth Party Congress determine that in the present phase of our country's revolution there are two strategic missions: successfully building socialism and maintaining readiness to fight to defend the socialist Fatherland. In a situation in which the enemy are simultaneously waging a multifaceted war of destruction and a border encroachment war against our country, the most essential and direct content of the mission of defending the socialist Fatherland is to defeat those aggressive wars waged by the enemy (while building strong national defense by all the people on a national scale). To achieve that would be at the same time to take a step toward defeating Beijing's plot to prepare to start a large-scale war of aggression, and to preserve peace for the great undertaking of building socialism nationwide. It is easily seen that the nation cannot be at ease in concentrating on fulfilling the strategic mission of "successfully building socialism" if we cannot defeat the encroachment war and the multifaceted war.

The six northern border provinces, especially the more than 30 districts which share a border with China, are front-line localities which have the greatest responsibility and represent the entire nation in coping directly with the enemy. Therefore, the border border provinces and districts must be developed strongly in all regards, and on that basis it is necessary to build and continually perfect the battlefield status of people's war to defend the Fatherland in border region. It is necessary to develop to the highest degree the subjective efforts of the entire nation, combine with aid from the entire nation, and endeavor to build localities that are strong with regard to national defense, rich economically, and stable politically, and develop each province into a strong strategic area and each district into a stalwart military fortress. It is necessary to closely combine the fight against the border encroachment war with the fight against the multifaceted war of destruction in the border provinces. If that is to be accomplished it is necessary to closely combine the sectors and echelons, which must be placed under the concentrated leadership of the party committee echelons and the unified management of the governmental administration, and the system of mastership by the people in all phases of combat and development must be strongly developed. It is necessary to closely combine the local troops and the regular troops operating in the locality, combine combat with production, combine national defense with the economy, combine national defense with security, and continually build up a solid, impenetrable, integrated people's war status in the nation's front line area.

All first-echelon localities must endeavor to develop in accordance with the requirement of fighting the enemy under all circumstances with high combat effectiveness, resolutely holding their ground, fighting continually and persistently, and protecting the safety of the lives and property of the people.

The forces waging people's war against the encroachment war are the forces of the entire population and the forces of the ethnic minority people of the border provinces, with the people's armed forces serving as the hard core and

the on-the-spot forces serving as the main forces (including main-force troops stationed in the locality, local troops, border defense troops, militia and self-defense forces, and the people's public security forces). In certain instances, it is possible to use some mobile main-force troops.

Special attention must be paid to developing the units fulfilling missions in the border region into comprehensively strong units. Organization, TO & E, and equipment must be appropriate of the jungle-and-mountains region and to the geographical conditions of the battlefield, as must be continually perfected. Each echelon must have reserves of manpower and the necessary materiel and technical facilities, which must be promptly supplemented. The troops must be well trained, especially the basic units, so that they can have both good basic skills and ability to apply them in many specific combat situations. Their will, determination, and fighting spirit must be continually bolstered and strengthened. They must have consciousness of organization and strict, tight discipline. Cadres must closely monitor the specific situation and be exemplary and decisive. Rear services and technical support and facilities for morale and cultural activities must receive priority.

The nation as a whole and the troop units in the rear must regard aiding and assisting the border provinces and the units fighting at the front as a political mission of the locality (along with their foremost mission of concentrating on strengthening the locality in all regards). That is not only a responsibility of the rear toward the front line but is also a matter of sentiment, a matter of national virtue. The border countries are fighting for the entire nation, so the nation help them fight.

It is necessary to implement very well the policies regarding the army's rear area, take care of the families of war dead, disabled veterans, and the families of military personnel, ensure that the cadres and men at the front are content and enthusiastic, and restrict to the minimum the effect of negative phenomena in the rear area on the front line. It is necessary to bring into play the strength of the rear area with regard to the front line and ensure the continuous morale mobilization and materiel supplementation of the front line, of the front-line provinces and districts fighting and building.

Recently, in accordance with a division of labor by the state, the provinces to the rear organized organized brotherhood ties with the border provinces. Many provinces have held discussions and have carried out very positive, very practical, and correct aid activities. That aid is intended not only to fulfill the requirements of combat against the encroachment war and improve the people's present living conditions but, even more important, to help the front-line localities have additional material-technical bases and additional essential conditions for bringing into play their great potential, on the basis of which to build localities that are developed in very way so that they can be sufficiently strong to defeat at the same time having the capability to respond to all contingencies of war to defend the Fatherland.

The military regions and the rear-area troop units, the schools and institutes, the combat arms and armed forces branches, the organs of the

Ministry, etc., recently also have had many practical forms of aid for the front-line units, by helping them resolve actual difficulties, by providing material and sending manpower to participate in building projects, battlefield positions, and roads, helping to resolve problems regarding disease prevention and treatment, improving conditions to improve morale and material lives, exchanging experiences regarding development and combat, etc. The rear-area units urgently and strictly carried out orders to send manpower and materiel to aid the front, including the sending of replacement combat units.

A strong rear area is always a permanent factor determining victor in war. Bringing into play the strength of the rear area with regard to the front line in accordance with those correct policies has an even more important significance in war to defend the Fatherland to fight the border encroachment war, because part of our country is at war while the rest is at peace. The circumstance of peaceful construction in the rear area exerts a permanent and very specific effect on the difficult, fierce fighting by the cadres and men at the front.

With regard to combat, because of the characteristics of people's war against the encroachment war, it is necessary to pay attention to studying the application of, and do a good job of resolving, the following principal matters.

1. Combine people's war by the main-force units with local people's war.

That is one of our laws for winning victory in liberation war and war to defend the Fatherland, and also a law for winning victory in people's war against the encroachment war.

Along the northern border, the area of operations is the jungle-and-mountains region, which has a sparse population and which is as yet undeveloped. Therefore, we must make all-out efforts in many regards and over a long period of time to develop local people's war, on the basis of which to combine local people's war with war fought by main-force units in people's war against the war of encroachment. That matter is related to the building up of the northern border provinces in all regards, from redistributing population to sending workers from the lowlands to build the economic bases, construction projects, state farms and state forests, and new population centers, implementing the ethnic minority policy, building political bases at the local level, building up the local armed forces, etc. In the immediate future, it is necessary to concentrate on doing a good job of building up more than 30 front-line districts in the northern border provinces so that they become increasingly stronger military bastions, in accordance with predetermined plans.

The local forces (including the local troops and the militia and self-defense forces) are the principal forces waging local people's war. Under certain specific conditions, if local forces are weak or lacking, some main-force troops must be sent to assist the local armed forces or they themselves must carry out the combat activities of local people's war, both fulfilling the mission of main-force troops in the localities and fulfilling the mission of local people's war.

The main-force units must clearly realize the latent capabilities of the localities and of the ethnic minority people and youths in the localities, and must truly have confidence in them, go all-out in guiding and assisting them, and create conditions for the local armed forces to assume responsibility for and do a good job of fulfilling their missions. The local armed forces in the border provinces at present are rather strong, with regard to organization, equipment, will, and determination to fight, and they have expert knowledge of the terrain and full understanding of the enemy. The cadres and men of the local armed forces are local ethnic minority people who, in addition to having consciousness of fighting the enemy for the Fatherland have the motivation of fighting for their home areas, their villages and hamlets, and their ethnic group and families. Their weaknesses with regard to level of coordination and their technical and tactical levels are certain to be gradually overcome if the main-force units positively assist and guide them.

2. Create many appropriate fighting methods to defeat the operational measures of the Chinese aggressor troops in the border encroachment war.

The enemy's fighting methods in the border encroachment war are very complicated: they sometimes concentrate to launch large attacks, sometimes launch small attacks, sometimes launch coordinated combat arms attacks, and at times slip behind our lines to carry out secret surprise attacks, attack at any time of day, etc. Therefore, our operational guidance must be very flexible and creative. We must firmly grasp the strategic thought of achieving mastery and attacking, attacking and achieving mastery, know how to rely solidly on the battlefield status of people's war which has taken form and been continually perfected in actual combat, closely combine the activities of the various kinds of troops, bring into play combined strength, and resolutely take the initiative in combat.

Depending on the development of the situation, it is possible to combine small, miscellaneous, continuous battles with activity campaigns, or when necessary, launch campaigns with appropriate scales and forms. It is possible to all basic operational forms--defensive, counteroffensive (counterattack), and offensive--and cleverly combine all three forms in each campaign and battle.

It is necessary to study and develop many tactical forms and combat stratagems of all kinds of troops to defeat the operational measures and stratagems of the enemy.

The local troops must apply the operational principle of truly flexible concentration and dispersion, and must not be rigid. They must not think that only concentrated fighting reflects the level of maturization of the local troops. The local troops must be well trained in both concentrated and dispersed fighting. Whether the fighting is concentrated or dispersed, and no matter what the scale or time, they must base themselves on the combat requirements and take into consideration the general situation. When they see that it is more advantageous to fight dispersed battles they should not hesitate, and when it is necessary to concentrate they must do so at the right time, urgently requirement with regard to the use of local troops in the anti-encroachment war.

The militia and self-defense forces, which are primarily on-the-spot combat organizations, are small-scale, extensive, and permanent. The strong point of the militia and self-defense forces is the offensive. By nature their activities are extremely mobile and active. They can attack frontally, on the flanks, behind enemy lines, and both day and night. They are capable of spotting the enemy quickly and of organizing combat rapidly. Therefore, the militia and self-defense forces should not be concentrated permanently into large units. The militia and self-defense forces may also carry out defensive operations. As Uncle Ho taught, "the guerrilla units must also make use of defense, but that defense is active defense, i.e. attacking the enemy troops in order to defend, not withdraw into a place so that the enemy troops can attack them at will" (Ho Chi Minh, "Guerrilla Warfare").

Recently, the local armed forces in the border region have creatively and effectively applied many combat forms and stratagems, such as using small forces in ambushes to annihilate or capture groups of the enemy, move up close to the enemy positions to snipe, lay mines, wipe out reconnaissance personnel and lookouts, use firepower for "nightwatch" shelling, continually exerting pressure on enemy morale, interdicting enemy artillery and when conditions permit attacking and destroying them, penetrating behind enemy lines to lay mines and set traps, harassing, ambushing, and raiding the enemy and continually wearing them down, carrying out diversions to deceive the enemy, propagandizing and proselytizing the enemy troops, etc.

The main-force troops, which fulfill the mission of hard-core forces on the border defense line in the important areas, must be skilled with regard to both offensive fighting and defensive fighting. It is necessary to positively guide the local troops in fighting defensively on the spot, guide the local armed forces in local people's war to closely combine war by main-force units with local people's war, and bring into play all on-the-spot forces of both the local and main-force troops and both our soldiers and people.

In defensive fighting, it is necessary to rely solidly on the battlefield position of people's war and on the system of fortifications, battlefield positions, firepower bases, obstacles, etc., inflict casualties on the enemy, effectively stop the attacks of the enemy, and resolutely defend objectives. The troop units not directly threatened by the enemy must be extremely active and positively coordinate with and aid the other units. They may launch brief attacks (and counterattacks) on the flanks and rear of the enemy troops. They must closely combine defense with offense (and counteroffensives), and offense with defense, and both stop the enemy and interdict them so that the enemy cannot concentrate forces to attack us.

The mobile units must prepare in advance many plans to attack the enemy on many scales and in many forms. They must especially pay attention to preparing access roads and battlefield positions in advance in order to fight at the front.

The artillery units must provide timely and effective aid to the infantry units in combat. The support units must promptly supply and supplement facilities and equipment for the front.

The requirement with regard to main-force troops in anti-encroachment people's war is that they must be skilled in offense, counteroffense, and defense and always closely combine those fighting methods, but offense and counteroffense (counterattacks) are the principal combat forms. They must be skilled in coordinated combat with the other combat arms and in fighting independently, and in fighting on large, medium, and small scales. In anti-encroachment peoples' war, the most appropriate fighting method for the main-force units is using large forces but having appropriate combat stratagems and attaining high combat effectiveness.

Actual combat experience in the recent period has shown that inoffensive warfare, after we have annihilated the enemy and recovered the areas they had illegally occupied, it is necessary to immediately organize their defense so that the enemy cannot retake them. Annihilating the enemy and defending territory are the most important objectives of anti-encroachment people's war.

Before attacking it is necessary to organize careful reconnaissance and fully grasp the enemy very solidly, specifically, and in detail, and monitor the enemy continually, from reconnaissance until the beginning of the attack. It is necessary to make meticulous preparations in all regards, especially with regard to the organization of forces, which must be used in correct numbers and in a manner appropriate to each battle. There must be ideological preparation and careful tactical and technical training for each specific battle. It is essential to build models and sand tables so that training can be in close accordance with the specific conditions of the objective. It is necessary to move up close to the enemy while carrying out diversions and keep our offensive intentions. We must organize coordination between the infantry and the combat arms in accordance with many plans.

After the attack, we must immediately implement a plan to hold the objectives that have been taken. It is necessary to make immediate use of enemy fortifications, and improve and strengthen them in accordance with our combat requirements. Especially, it is necessary to quickly organize forces, further strengthen them, and provide them with additional weapons and equipment, to be prepared to defeat the enemy counterattacks, which are usually very fierce, continuous, and persistent. We must do a good job of moving forces from the rear to attack the enemy's flanks and rear and support the enemy defending the objectives.

In addition to studying methods of fighting on land, our soldiers and people, especially the air-defense and air force units, must be extremely vigilant and make meticulous preparations to retaliate against enemy air raids. The naval units must be prepared to defeat all enemy harassment activities at sea or raids on our islands or coast.

In the process of employing the combat forms and stratagems, it is necessary to continually grasp the requirement of a high degree of effectiveness in combat. Combat effectiveness is the yardstick for measuring the operational ability of each unit.

High combat effectiveness must be manifested in the use of appropriate forces to annihilate rapidly and efficiently large numbers of the enemy, the amount

of ammunition used, and low losses. To attain those requirements, it is necessary to build and forge the unit in advance, with regard to will, determination, the organization and command ability of the cadres, and the tactical and technical ability of the enlisted men.

3. Combine defeating the border encroachment war with defeating the war of destruction; combine combat and combat readiness with the consolidation of national defense, and be prepared to defeat a large-scale war of aggression.

By defeating the enemy's border encroachment war we will contribute importantly to turning back their plot to wage a scale war of aggression. To simultaneously prepare to defeat a large-scale war of aggression is to create conditions for defeating the enemy's present border encroachment war. In the immediate period, in combining the requirement of fighting to defeat the border encroachment war with the requirements of consolidating national defense and maintaining readiness to defeat a large-scale war of aggression, our soldiers and people must continue to perfect their basic defensive plan and plan to combine economics with national defense, continue to promote the building of a people's war battlefield status on the basis of creating a battlefield status of mastership by the people in all regards in the northern border provinces, pay special attention to developing the local military forces in order to have conditions for more strongly developing the mode of waging local people's war, strengthen and complete the system of roads, battlefield equipment, and supply depots, and gradually build a foundation for national defense industry.

Furthermore, it is necessary to study the improvement of organization and equipment and improve the training contents and methods along the lines of combining basic training with applied training that is appropriate to actual battlefield conditions. We must concentrate on guiding the work of providing rear services and technical support to fully meet the immediate and long-range combat requirements. We must participate in economic construction, positively promote the increasing of local production, and improve the troops's living conditions.

We must promote all aspects of the party-political work in the armed forces, and pay adequate attention to propaganda and publicity domestically and worldwide, to propagandizing and proselytizing the people in the enemy country along our border, and to implementing the army's awards and rear area policies. Special attention must be paid to the ideological work and to effectively opposing the enemy's psychological warfare.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CLOSER TIES BETWEEN SCHOOLS, BATTLEFIELD URGED

Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese Oct 85 pp 19-28

[Article by Colonel Ung Rang: "Tying the Schools in with the Battlefield"]

[Text] Tying the schools in with the battlefield is a principle regarding both teaching and study at the schools and institutes in the army. That principle must be fully understood in building up and steeling the ranks of instructors, improving the teaching and study curricula and contents, and organizing student recruitment and the all-round education and steeling of students so that they can become officers with good moral qualities and abilities who are capable of fulfilling the responsibilities assigned them once they leave the schools.

Because the functions and missions of each school differ, the manifestation of the principle of tying the schools in with the battlefield has features that vary from place to place. Furthermore, if the requirements of one battlefield are compared to those of another battlefield and, especially, if the demands of the battlefields in one war are compared to those of the battlefields in another war, there are even more features that differ. Therefore, it may be said that tying in the schools with the battlefields is a very complex task that requires the managing cadres of each school and institute not only to have permanent consciousness but also to be responsive. It demands the positive contributions of all elements and components of the school and the close guidance and timely assistance of the sectors, the combat arm, school organs, and training organs at the corresponding echelon and the upper echelon.

With regard to our Military Engineer Command-Technical Officers School, during the period of resisting the United States for national salvation in the past, and under the conditions of opposing the encroachment war and maintaining readiness to defeat the large-scale war of aggression being waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, the most effective measure for tying in the schools with the battlefield is grasping the new requirements of the battlefield, which differ in some ways from the liberation war period, especially the most outstanding, topical requirements that have been posed for fulfilling the basic functions and missions of the combat arm in all wars, and making them an important basis on which to study and improve the contents, curricula, and instructional and study methods.

In the first round our soldiers and people defeated the war of aggression of the Beijing reactionaries and their lackeys at the two ends of the nation, especially in the six northern border provinces at the beginning of 1979. Although everything had not been fully exposed, that helped us realize the new features and requirements of the battlefield in people's war to defend the socialist Fatherland. An outstanding matter that is closely related to the functions and missions of the military engineer combat arm in general and the Military Engineer Command-Technical Officers School in particular is the defensive requirements of war to defend the Fatherland. Among the defensive requirements, offensive, counteroffensive, and defensive operations are all very important. Offense and counteroffense play decisive roles. At the same time, the role of defensive combat is also very important. In defense, combat installations are an element which ensures victory. Our defense is deeply embued with offensive thought, so combat installations must manifest that thought.

On our country's defensive line in the northern border region, which has difficult jungles-and-mountains terrain and is a focal point of the multifaceted war of destruction and border encroachment war waged by the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists, every day we have had to counter the schemes of the enemy, who subject us to artillery shelling, send spies and commandoes across to commit sabotage, and send infantry across the border to take a number of high points in our country. Recently, in the period from 27 May to 13 June 1985 alone Chinese troops fired more than 220,000 artillery shells into the Vi Xuyen (Ha Tuyen) area. On some days, such as 31 May, they fired nearly 50,000 shells. Of course, that was not a large-scale war of aggression. Once the enemy foolhardily start a large-scale war of aggression, the situation could become even worse and more fierce. Therefore, the first words that have reverberated back from the battlefield to the military engineer combat arm in general and the military engineer officers school specifically, were about battlefield fortifications.

That is not only a matter about which students at the military engineer school must be carefully educated and thoroughly trained, but is also a matter which must be correctly understood, and receive adequate attention, by all command echelons, sectors, and combat arms, including the military engineer combat arm. With regard to components, types, quality, and degree of solidity, as well as the structural scale and the time of utilization, the battlefield fortifications and combat installations make demands which far surpass those of the liberation wars in the past.

In order to attain solid mastery and attack strongly, battlefield fortifications on the defense lines, especially on the front line, must be constructed so that they form an integrated system to ensure that our forces can stand firm over a long period of time, without giving an inch, in either the dry season or the rainy season, over a period of many months and years. There are not only combat defense works for troops and for weapons which are used a good deal or little and with known ranges and effectiveness, but also defensive works for troops and weapons which we are not accustomed to using and have unfamiliar ranges and effectiveness. Firepower fortifications must ensure capability to annihilate the enemy both day and night and on both sunny and foggy days, and allow firing at many different ranges and in many

different directions. There must be not only observation posts with limited effectiveness for a limited period of time, but also observation posts with great effectiveness for use over a long period of time, which can spot enemy troops at many different elevations and many different offensive columns. Consideration must be given to shelters, first aid bunkers, bunkers for storing food and ammunition, water supply stations, and combat trenches and communications trenches, not only on a month-to-month basis but also for use for a year or a period of many years. Therefore, there are not only the matters of selecting construction sites, building the defensive works, and deciding on the degree of reinforcement, but also the matter of equipment that is quite elaborate and complicated: water drainage equipment, anti-humidity and anti-cave in equipment, sound insulation equipment, equipment to ensure the safety of entrances and exists and counter nuclear and chemical weapons, etc. Under the conditions of our battlefield positions on the front line being face-to-face with the enemy, ensuring battlefield safety and the maintenance of our troops' fighting strength have become a major demand. We must not allow our fire support bases and observation posts to be destroyed by enemy artillery or our trenches and bunkers to be collapsed by enemy artillery. Therefore, it is also necessary to pay attention to camouflage, feints, the building of reserve fortifications, false defensive works, false combat positions, etc.

All such requirements regarding the construction of battlefield positions must not only be made clear to the students but, above all, must be fully understood by their instructors, so that they can apply them in each lecture, on the drill field, and when examining and evaluating the results of the students' study. It is necessary to enable both teachers and students to clearly realize the complicated, continuous, and long-range challenges that have been posed by the enemy's border encroachment war on the northern border, and to enable them to clearly understand the characteristics and nature of our nation's people's war to defend the socialist Fatherland, should the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists foolhardily start a large-scale war of aggression. The battlefields of those wars have posed for our armed forces many new problems and requirements, and demand that our troops not only be skilled in fighting outside the defensive works but also be accustomed to fighting in defensive fortifications. They must attain good results and high effectiveness, annihilate the enemy, and outstandingly fulfill their combat missions on battlefields with our complete systems of fortifications. Therefore, the military engineer officers must not only firmly grasp and master the techniques of battlefield defensive works and be skilled in coordinating those works with tactics in order to serve tactics when constructing battlefield defensive works, but must also be capable of propagandizing, disseminating, and contributing to actual implementation, so that the units can improve their knowledge and attain good results in building defensive works on the battlefield.

In addition to the battlefield defensive works, the matter of obstacles has become a current urgent demand of the battlefield. That is not a matter of merely deploying obstacles in a few locations for a certain period of time, as during the liberation war, but by and large the placement of obstacles in clusters and fields, with a main line and depth, to form a system that remains in place throughout one period of time and into another period of time, for a

period of a month or many months, or one or many years. Such a system includes explosive obstacles and nonexplosive obstacles; obstacles of earth, wood, or steel or perhaps even water or fire; and obstacles submerged under water, floating on the surface of water, placed on the surface of land, on river banks, or on seacoasts, and perhaps extending into the air. There are not only obstacles blocking roads used by attacking enemy troops but also obstacles to protect the main line of resistance, protect our flanks and protect our artillery fire support bases and command headquarters. There are not only fixed obstacles and manmade obstacles, but also movable obstacles and natural obstacles. We must take full advantage of the advantageous terrain features and improve the terrain to set up effective obstacle systems. We must positively plant rattan, bamboo, mangrove, etc., to support the defensive positions. We must go a good job of carrying out all tasks: mobilizing forces, organizing construction and deployment, and organizing management and bringing the obstacles into combat.

In mobilizing forces, it is necessary to bring the hard-core of the military engineer troops into play in deploying and constructing the important, complicated obstacles, especially the explosive obstacles, in the key areas and main directions. It is also necessary to develop the role of the cadre and enlisted masses in the units especially units on the battlefield, in deploying and constructing ordinary, nonexplosive, uncomplicated obstacles, such as anti-tank trenches, anti-tank pits, barbed wire fences, anti-personnel mines, etc., to serve directly and immediately the combat missions of that battlefield or unit. The organization of the construction and deployment of obstacles must be combined closely with the system of defensive works and fire power on the battlefield, and must be in accord with estimates of the enemy's activities and our combat plans and missions. Some obstacles need only be deployed when we are about to enter the fighting, and can be moved and deployed even during the fighting. But most of the obstacles must be constructed and deployed when the battlefield is prepared and when preparing for combat on the defense line. Therefore, the utilization period is extended for several months or years and the organization and management of that system of obstacles becomes a rather complicated matter. It requires calculation and monitoring from the time when the location for construction or placement is decided upon, then throughout the process and until the construction or placement has been completed. In managing explosive obstacles it is also necessary to have maps and charts of the deployment area which mark the limits and entrances and exits, and clearly record the numbers, types, and methods of deployment of those obstacles, along with their status of combat readiness and the methods of bringing them into the fighting. Combat experiences show that if management is not good we often are unable to annihilate the enemy and the explosive obstacles we deploy may inflict losses on our troops. Therefore, it is insufficient for military engineer officers to grasp only the techniques and tactics of deploying obstacles. They must fully understand management so that they can participate in organizing management and fulfill well their functions and missions in managing the system of obstacles. Military engineer officers must not only have in-depth understanding of the role of obstacle systems in defense and in defensive fighting in order to bring it into play, but also clearly realize that because of the characteristics and strength of our people's war military art we can also use obstacles, especially mines, as offensive weapons, and even wage "mine warfare" to extensively annihilate the

enemy throughout the war by means of the main-force units and local people's war.

The battlefield has posed and is posing new requirements with regard to the techniques and tactics of building roads and bridges to facilitate mobility. Those are the techniques and tactics of building and erecting complete networks on the defense line to ensure that the combat forces could move vertically and horizontally in the area of operations to victoriously carry out not only defensive attacks and campaigns but also counteroffensive and offensive attacks and campaigns from the very beginning and throughout the course of war to defend the Fatherland. Road networks include both vertical and horizontal road and both campaign and battle roads. There must be mobility roads for each echelon to move troops in accordance with the operational plans that have been decided upon, especially in order to move artillery and mechanized forces. Although roads at the regimental, division, and higher level require much effort, if guidance, forces, and facilities are concentrated they can still be well prepared. On the other hand, although roads at the battalion and company levels involve much smaller volume and are in ways more simple, if they do not receive adequate attention, when they are needed there will be no roads for counterattacking or attacking the enemy. It is necessary not only to build main arteries but also to organize official and reserve roads, build many by-pass roads, build some road segments in advance and some later, and build some segments in peacetime before war breaks out and some after the war begins. The maximum possible secrecy and surprise must be maintained with regard to the road network. Therefore, there must be camouflage, the combining of real and artificial, secret and open, among daytime use and nighttime use, and between use when in a defensive and combat-ready status and in a large-scale war to defend the Fatherland, should one break out. Because of the combat requirements and the characteristics of the battlefields in our country, especially in the jungles-and-mountains region, experience shows that it is necessary to prepare in advance 90 to 95 percent of the roads that will be needed in combat, before the campaigns have begun. In addition to building roads and bridges, the organization of river crossings by means of many different facilities is also a matter which demands much effort and high technical and tactical levels on the part of the military engineer officers to ensure that the troops can move quickly and launch counteroffensives and offensives on time.

With the offensive concept, our troops must know how to build roads and cross rivers to attack the enemy, and must know how to skilfully fight the enemy under the conditions of having a limited number of roads but roads but having to cross many rivers and streams. For that reason, it is necessary to actively prepare roads, bridges, and fords in many phases, and gradually supplement and complete them in accordance with a unified plan to serve the combat missions and plans on the defensive line as a whole and in each part of it. The military engineers must play a hard core-specialized role and a staff role vis-a-vis the combined arms commanders in that sphere. It is necessary to have plans for mobilizing both the forces of the main defense line and the transportation forces to, along with the local people and youths, do a good job of preparing the road network, in accordance with the strategic and campaign decisions. In maneuvers and exercises we must remain within our actual capabilities in order to promptly point out the strengths and

weaknesses and the matters regarding the operational plan requiring prompt supplementation. We should not, because of simplistic viewpoints bring about bad consequences that were not foreseen because of a lack of roads for moving troops, changing the direction of combat, and carrying out counterattacks and attacks when a large-scale war break out.

In war to defend the socialist Fatherland on a large scale, we must also take into consideration many other matters vis-a-vis support installations, such as overcoming obstacle systems, destroying defensive works, and attacking enemy roads, command posts, and rear area bases, develop road and bridge networks, and ensure communications and mobility so that our troops can carry out counterattacks and attacks in greater depth. Therefore, beginning now the military engineer officers must have conditions for understanding the new operational objectives and enter deeply into the technical and tactical plots and schemes of the enemy, in order to tie them in with the instructional and study process, in order to ensure that when the students leave the schools they can rapidly adapt to the situation on the battlefield. The enemy's border encroachment war has revealed its true nature as a true, undeclared war which differs from other wars but is no less fierce. The enemy are endeavoring to strengthen their defensive works and obstacles, build a system of roads, and prepare their installations and airfields in areas bordering the sea and areas near the border. The enemy have not only used artillery of all kinds to shell our defensive works, explosive and nonexplosive obstacles, roads, and bridges, but have also used observation, reconnaissance, commandos, camouflage, mobility, etc., to spot and attack us, and use technical and tactical schemes to deceive us, in order to restrict or neutralize our measures and installations and implement their measures and projects. In some cases they have taken advantage of the terrain and natural features of the mountains, jungles, rivers, and streams to set traps for us, attached mines or explosives to psywar goods to harm us, and taken advantage of and immediately improved our installations to attack us. Even more cruel, they have dropped cannister mines upstream so that they can float down our rivers and streams. Therefore, if military engineer officers trained in schools have only basic knowledge of technical subjects and military engineer tactics, that is insufficient. They must be familiar with the actual situation of the battlefield and the enemy on the battlefield. That will not only help them have good practical ability that is appropriate to the requirements of combat, but also help them enter deeply into theory, by means of which they can increase their knowledge and creativity. They will pay attention to discovering the technical and tactical schemes of the enemy in order to effectively fight them. They can quickly detect the enemy and enable our troops to avoid lack of vigilance, oversimplicity, and naivete toward the enemy troops in the sphere of deploying and constructing defensive works and obstacles, building roads and bridges, ensuring mobility when on the defensive, and protecting installations during counterattacks and attacks.

Of course, they cannot understand much about and deeply grasp the enemy with only a little exposure. Therefore, the schools must take advantage of many sources to promptly receive new information from the battlefield, by means of which to supplement the existing information about the enemy for inclusion in lectures and the classroom, practical work, and exercises. Also by that means the school can obtain additional sources and materials for making scientific

assessments and predictions about the technical and tactical plots and schemes of the enemy under even more fierce, and the most fierce, circumstances of the war, and contribute to setting forth our technical and technical directions and measures in that war, in order to serve not only the instructional and study activities in the schools but also the training and combat readiness of the combat arm and our troops in general.

Our school has received many kinds of information from many different battlefields. That information has come from the battlefields of the soldiers and people of Cambodia, who are fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with the Vietnamese volunteer troops to annihilate the Pol Pot forces in Cambodia-Thailand border area. It also includes information about the good points and deficiencies, and conclusions regarding techniques, tactics, and installation support by our troops in defensive fighting along the northern border of the Fatherland in opposing the border encroachment war and multifaceted war of destruction waged by the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists. That information has been very useful to us in enabling the training contents in the school to be richer and more lively, and in opposing the phenomenon of separating the school from the requirements of the battlefield.

However, the actual situation has also shown us that the school cannot receive to and assimilate that information passively and one-sidedly, but must play the role of a scientific research center and compare, analyze, and sift through that information in order to use accurate information as effectively as possible and eliminate information which originates with combat activities but does not accurately reflect the actual situation of the battlefield. The school can thereby not only practically help to increase the fighting strength of the troops on the battlefield but can avoid both incorrect tendencies: conservatively following the model of the school after the actual situation has developed and changed, or copying everything on the battlefield, without distinguishing between what is correct and what is incorrect or carefully studying the source of the information, which leads to incorrect conclusions.

Furthermore, in tying the school in with the battlefield we cannot tie in all schools with all battlefields, but must first of all tie it in with the most widespread, urgent developments and demands of the battlefield, especially of the war as a whole. Only such as relationship can orient each school in determining training contents and curricula to ensure that when the students leave the school they can immediately accept and fully missions, even on the main battlefield. Of course, such relations are not easy, because a school such as ours, which is located in an area in which includes midlands, lowlands, and rivers but cannot use the lowlands and rivers to represent the type of terrain that is common on battlefields at present. Therefore, increasing knowledge, accumulating experience, and improving the teaching methods of the school, so that they closely reflect the battlefield, has become an urgent demand.

Instructors must attain the level of "knowing much and teaching little" and "knowing ten and teaching one." They must know about the enemy and about ourselves, know about the campaign and battle plots and schemes of the enemy, and know about our strategic decisions and military art, and the requirements

of providing engineering support for our troops in war to defend the Fatherland under modern conditions and in the terrain, climatic, and weather conditions that have occurred and will occur in war. Only there by is it possible to relate all matters taught to the common situation and requirements of the army and the battlefield created by the characteristics and nature of the enemy and war, by which means to increase the liveliness of lectures, draw the interest of students, and increase the effectiveness of the study sessions. In order to increase the knowledge and add to the experience of teachers to ensure that instruction can meet the increasingly greater requirements of the battlefield, our school has applied many measures: creating a self-study, self-training movement even among instructors, arranging for instructors to study in concentrated classes and in on-the-job classes, and carrying out specialized research projects and applied scientific-technical projects. We and recommended to the upper echelon, and took advantage of all possible opportunities, to listen to the upper echelon explain the situation of the enemy and ourselves on the battlefield and the experiences of the units in fighting and providing engineering support, organizing training for instructors regarding the new technical and tactical experiences of the battlefield, organizing instructors conferences, teaching competitions, and guest lecturing in accordance with the predetermined requirements, and arranging for instructors to make actual visits to the units and battlefields.

The difficulty is how to arrange for some instructors to obtain actual experience while the departments continue to fulfill the instructional missions of the schools during each academic year and class. There are many methods: sending a certain proportion of the total number of instructors of each department and of the school as a whole; sending instructors for a certain proportion of the total instructional time and work time of each instructor; and sending instructors according to the needs of the departments and lessons. Experience shows that in order to arrange for instructors to make such trips, the planning of the school must be very inclusive and meticulous. They must include each school day, study period, instructor, specialized lecture hall, etc. One should not seek perfection, even if the totals are only 5 to 10 percent of the instructors or the instructional time, they should be sent. The important matter is that there must be meticulous preparations with regard to goals and contents so that they can be within capabilities, in accord with the actual situation, have selected emphasis, and produce clear results. It is possible to go to units on the battlefield or the front line, or to units in the rear area and on the rear echelon.

The actual combat conditions and the actual visits to units have provided our school's instructors with much information and documentation to affirm the training of officer candidates so that when engaged in technical activities they have been solidly prepared and with regard to tactics they must be very skilled. Students at the school must be trained very thoroughly in technical subjects, especially basic technical subjects. Only thereby can they do a good job of applying them in combat and enable technology to effectively serve tactics. As for tactics, the difficult thing in instruction is not enabling students to mechanically follow a handful of doctrines, but in enabling them to firmly grasp military thought in all tactical forms and at all tactical

levels while studying so that they can act correctly and creatively on the battlefield.

The actual situation has shown that schools providing basic training for officers, such as our school, it is even more important to pay attention to setting aside much time for practical work on the drill fields. The lower class organizations in the school (student platoons) must emphasize actual work, be well trained in basic techniques, and strictly obey safety rules. It is possible to send students to military engineer units to teach and study a number of subjects. That not only fully utilizes the existing material bases of the units but also helps the units be closer to the units, understand the daily activity of the troops, and carry out exercises selected by the school in accordance with the requirements of the battlefield. However, to be appropriate to the battlefield, on the drill fields it is necessary to continually resolve the matter of training in accordance with basic requirements and undergoing practical training according to contingencies that may arise in war. In training in accordance with basic requirements, we cannot be simplistic or negligent, but also should not be too complicated or too difficult, which will cause the students to be overwhelmed and confused, and create incorrect thoughts about the battlefield. As for applied training, the instructors can combine many forms on the spot, present combat experiences and models, present contingencies for students to discuss and answer questions about, by means of which to reinforce their knowledge and their confidence in their knowledge and their confidence in their ability to act after they leave the school.

Also because one of the objectives is bolstering the knowledge and confidence of the students, in the system of schools of the military engineer combat arm, some places have organized cadre teams made up of the military engineer director, the military engineer aide, and the commander of the school's military engineer unit, so that it can be sent for on-the-spot study and to participate in exercises in a combined combat arms unit. The actual situation has shown that with regard to methodology, in study, practice, and exercises it is necessary to enable matters pertaining to military engineer department to be applied in a manner appropriate to main-force troops, local troops, and militia and self-defense forces. It is necessary to both train the students to organize the rational, highly effective use of modern, premanufactured technical equipment and arrange actual practice so that they can always pay adequate attention to bringing all capabilities of the terrain and of the manpower, materiel, equipment in the localities into play in the mission of providing engineering support in practice and exercises, in order to fulfill all requirements of people's war on the battlefields. According to the missions of the army and information from the battlefield, at times it is necessary to resolutely adjust, supplement, or change a number of training subjects during the training year, or even during a training month.

In order to tie the schools in with the battlefield, unified guidance by the General Staff and the combat arm's command is a matter of great, all-round significance.

In the final analysis, all training contents and programs for each class in each institute and school has been studied out selected in accordance with the

direction and mission of building up the army and our people's war science and art, with the assimilation of the most general and newest experiences of the battlefield and the most appropriate experiences of the military schools of the fraternal socialist countries. Therefore, strict training in accordance with those contents and programs is a basic activity of great importance of tying the schools in with the battlefields. But that alone is not enough. Therefore, there must be unified guidance to ensure the timely supplying of information about changes in the situations of the enemy and ourselves to the necessary and permissible degree for each institute and school in each rational period of time. There must be information about the situations of campaigns and tactics and the successes and lack of success in providing engineering support for our troops, but also about the new developments in the sphere of improving and using technical equipment by the enemy and by our troops.

Unified guidance is also intended to concentrate the necessary intelligence and forces of the schools in researching, investigating, and reaching conclusions about the most topical, important, universal matters that have arisen on the battlefield, to help all schools have a basis on which to promptly apply them. The actual situation has shown that there have been times when each institute and school has by itself made conclusions about and applied its capabilities, which has caused wasteful and unnecessary arguing among the schools. That has not resulted from the subjective desires or deficiencies of the instructors, but from a lack of unified guidance.

Of course, the effectiveness of unified management also depends to a very important degree on bringing into play the spirit of mastership and voluntarily, examine, research, discover deficiencies, and improve the contents and methods of all institutes and schools, in order to keep the gap between them and the requirements of the battlefield as narrow as possible. Each school must research and supplement their contents, instructional equipment, drill fields, and documents. The schools and classes have practically identical responsibilities of exchanging information and experiences, and cooperate with one another in meeting the demands posed by the battlefield. In training specialized combined combat arms officers, each institute and school can introduce new knowledge, information, and conclusions from the battlefield regarding combined combat arms operations and provide them the experiences of their own sector, by means of which to create unity among the various places and tie the schools in with the battlefield more and more closely and effectively.

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